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2/3/2002



Are you ready for some football?

It's Super Bowl Sunday, and we've got the stats on the Rams and the Pats.

Special, Page 6A



The Krewe's 36th annual Mardi Gras Parade starts today at 1 p.m.

Community, Page 1B

The Sea Coast Echo

Since 1892

VOL. 111, NO. 10 RAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI

WWW.SEA COAST ECHO.COM

TWO SECTIONS, 22 PAGES 50 CENTS

Sunday
FEB. 3, 2002

Shoot-out near hospital

BW Head Start Mardi Gras

Bay-Waveland Head Start's annual Mardi Gras Parade will be Friday, Feb. 8, at 9:30 a.m. The route will begin at the corner of Main St., to Necaise Ave. to Bookter. The grand marshal is Katherine Wilson, the Bay-Waveland School District early childhood coordinator.

Two-way street now a one-way

Beginning tomorrow, Court St. and State St. will be one-way roadways. Court will go west from the beach to Second; State, east from Second to Beach Blvd.

Need coaches!

The Bay St. Louis Dixie Youth Girls Softball League will host a meeting for young ladies ages 15 and up who would like to help coach fast pitch softball. The meeting is Wed., 7 p.m. at the old city hall in Bay St. Louis. Call Kelly Blanchard at 332-0430 days, or 467-9062, nights.

WHAT'S INSIDE

Editorial.....Page 4A
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TIDES

By BENNIE SHALLBETTER

Prisoner swipes gun; recaptured after alleged highjacking

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Police fired at least 15 shots at an armed highjacker in the Hancock Medical Center parking lot on Friday, after he unsuccessfully attempted to enter one vehicle, then took control of a visitor's pickup truck. Witnesses said the owner of the truck had gone into the center, leaving his fiance waiting outside, when the highjacker forced her out of the truck at gunpoint.

The man, Andy J. Ervin, alias William Daryl Kent Jr., 35, is an inmate at the Hancock County Justice Facility, and was at the medical center for treatment. Ervin escaped when he overpowered an officer who was accompanying him, took his gun, and escaped into the parking lot just after noon, witnesses said.

Officers had already been summoned to the scene after Ervin attempted to highjack a vehicle driven by Cheryl Billeaud, wife of Hancock County Sheriff's Department Deputy Ray Billeaud. Cheryl Billeaud had come to the hospital to pay a bill, she said.

"I saw the guy come out of the side entrance. He had on what looked like pajamas. I thought he was a patient," said Billeaud. "He ran in front of my van and was waving his hands to stop me. He came up to the window and had one hand ready to open the door and his other hand behind his back ... then he pulled out a semi-automatic weapon and held it to the window."

"I would usually panic in a situation like that, but somehow I just punched the door lock, stepped on the gas and headed toward the

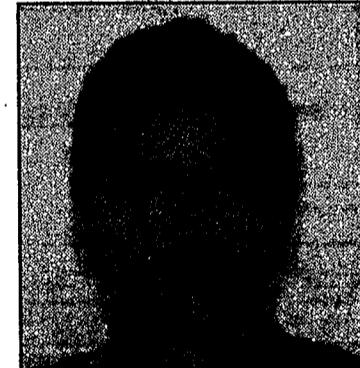
building," Billeaud said. "Other people told me I was swerving all over. I saw a woman coming out and I shouted for her to get back

inside and call 911. Another couple were walking up and called 911 on their cell phone."

Ervin was angry when she locked the door, Billeaud



Officers of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department and the Bay St. Louis and Waveland police departments question witnesses at the scene Friday after prisoner Andy J. Ervin was wounded while trying to escape.



Andy J. Ervin, alias William Daryl Kent Jr., had been held at the Hancock County Justice Facility pending trial on charges of armed robbery, sexual battery, car jacking and kidnapping.

Photo courtesy of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department



Police riddled Ervin's escape vehicle with bullets. One of them grazed Ervin's head, and he was treated for the wound at the medical center before being returned to jail.

inside and call 911. Another couple were walking up and called 911 on their cell phone."

Ervin was angry when she locked the door, Billeaud

Waveland P. D., Sheriff's Department, and Highway Patrol converged on the scene, witnesses said.

In his attempt to escape, Ervin uprooted a good sized tree and dragged it along in the parking lot until shots fired stopped him just before he reached Drinkwater Blvd. Witnesses said that one of the bullets grazed Ervin's head; however, he was released from the hospital and returned to the justice facility Friday afternoon.

Janet McQueen, HMC public relations specialist, said she was off-campus when the incident occurred, but she soon learned no one in the hospital panicked, or was injured.

"We have procedures in place for handling most

SHOOT--PAGE 12A

**Edmund J. Sakey
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Supervisors protest cable rate increase

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

Cable television rates went up in Hancock County, effective Feb. 1.

The Hancock County Board of Supervisors were informed of the rate hikes by Mediacom as early as last December, but at the supervisors' recessed meeting last week, they filed an official protest.

Board President Rocky Pullman

CABLE--PAGE 12A

Time Temp
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Photo courtesy of Janet Schroll



Missing Hancock Middle School student Chrystal Schroll, 14, was found alive Friday.

Missing girl found

Hancock Middle School student had been gone four days; returns late Friday

ELLIS C. CUEVAS
Publisher Emeritus

"I am extremely happy that my daughter was located Friday and is alive," an elated Janet Schroll said Saturday morning.

Schroll's daughter Chrystal, a 14-year-old student at Hancock Middle School, was reported missing by her mother on Tuesday. Chrystal had last been seen entering a vehicle

on Avenue B in Shoreline Park at about 5 p.m. Tuesday near her home.

Hancock Sheriff's Investigator Rita Blaize-Watson was handling the investigation for the department and was not available for comment Saturday.

Janet Schroll said she had been frantically searching for

MISSING--PAGE 12A

Cops ... in Waveland



Henley lauded for 25 years with Waveland P.D.

The Waveland Police Department recently honored Assistant Police Chief Sandra "Sam" Henley for her 25 years of service to the department. Henley is pictured above with Donald Dorn, former Waveland police chief, and Chief James Varnell; and at right with Mayor Tommy Longo. "Sandra has been a tremendous, tremendous asset to the city," Longo said.



Welcome Center contract opened

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

The Mississippi Department of Transportation opened bids last week on a project to make major improvements at the Hancock County Welcome Center off Interstate 10.

David Seyfarth, project manager with MDOT, said it appears Sunrall construction, Inc., of Gulfport was the apparently low bidder at \$1.2 million, but the contract won't actually be let until Feb. 10 when the MDOT Commissioners meet in Jackson.

Seyfarth said improvements planned on the east-bound side of the I-10 had nothing to do with plans by volunteer businessman and NASA officials to locate a

Disney-style multi-million dollar space attraction in the vicinity of the popular stopping-off area.

"The improvement will certainly complement whatever might go there, but that's not the purpose of this project," said Seyfarth.

The Welcome Center improvements will be financed with federal funds channeled to the state Department of Transportation.

Seyfarth said plans call for expanding the truck parking area, and building a pedestrian plaza that will link to the Stennis exhibits currently on site and the Welcome Center.

He said the funds will also be used to improve the area where NASA shuttle buses arrive to pick up visi-

tors and take them on to the StennisSphere attractions at the space center.

The entire area will also be landscaped, and signage equipment will be installed, Seyfarth said.

The project is expected to get underway this March, with completion scheduled in November of 2004.

At the same meeting last week, MDOT delayed action on two other projects, and they are expected to be put out to bid again.

One project called for bids to install guardrails on U.S. Hwy. 90, and state Hwys. 607, 603 and 43.

The second project was to construct 0.18 miles of Mississippi Hwy. 53 at Mississippi Hwy. 603, known as the Necaise Crossing.

Mardi Gras to highlight story hours

"Mardi Gras" will be the theme for the story hour at the Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 10:30 a.m.

Gaston Goes to Mardi Gras will be the book read during the program. Susan Daigre, program coordinator, will host a Mardi Gras party for the children.

"Mardi Gras" will also be the theme for the children's story hour at the Kiln Public

Library on Thursday, Feb. 7, at 10:30 a.m.

On Mardi Gras Day, Parades and Gaston Goes to Mardi Gras are the books to be read during the program. Children will make their own Mardi Gras mask.

Weekly story hours are held September through May. Programs last approximately one half hour, depending upon subject matter and planned activity.

Programs and activities

are designed for pre-school age children three to five years old who are not part of a nursery or pre-school group.

For individual branch story hour information, contact Adrienne Bradley, Bay St. Louis-Hancock County Library, 467-5282; or Sandra Ladner, Kiln Public Library, 255-1724.

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I-59 tech area being touted by coalition as 'high-tech' corridor

BY ED LEPOMA

Staff Writer

Hancock County's Port and Harbor Commission has joined a coalition of four economic development groups promoting Interstate 59 as a high-technology corridor.

The commission is contributing \$3,125 annually to a promotional brochure and a web site spotlighting a 168-mile section of the interstate between Stennis Space Center and Meridian. Future plans call for erecting billboards along the interstate welcoming visitors to the technology corridor. The Mississippi Development Authority is matching funds contributed by the groups.

Areas along the interstate corridor already have in place a host of firms and universities engaged in the research and development of polymers and the production of aircraft engines, rocket motors and electrical transformers. The area is also in close proximity to major markets, including Birmingham, Mobile, Jackson and New Orleans.

Executive Director Hal Walters was on hand Wednesday when the new initiative was announced in Hattiesburg.

Others involved in the marketing effort are the Area Development Partnership, based in Hattiesburg, the Jones County Economic Development Authority, and the East Mississippi Business Development Authority, representing Meridian and Lauderdale

County.

Walters said he has already talked to promotional designer to update the brochure and web site to include Hancock County's Port Bienville Industrial Park, although it is not directly off I-59.

He said he wants future promotional materials to also include an emerging high-performance polymer cluster that includes GE Plastics, Wellman Plastics and the new plant recently opened by Mississippi Polymer Technologies, Inc.

Gray Swoope serves as president of ADP, and said the pieces are already in place on I-59, and networking among the different companies is just beginning.

"It is amazing the vast number of resources already in place along this span of interstate highway," said Swoope. "While others are trying to attract this type of infrastructure we already have it and are trying to build on it. It is our goal to maximize these economic development resources to help existing technology companies grow and ultimately incubate new ones."

"Many of us know about

these companies. Many of us know their strengths," said Swoope. "But, the majority of the state and certainly this region of the United States and the national decision-makers have no idea of what's happening along Interstate 59," he added.

Mitch Stennet, director of the Economic Development Authority of Jones County, estimated a total technological workforce of over 11,000 is already in place along the corridor.

He said more high-skills jobs will be added with the addition of a new Advanced Technology Centers to be built in the Howard Technology Park and the Hattiesburg/Forrest County Industrial Park.

The 1-59 marketing group was suggested after Hammer Siler George Associates, a consulting firm, identified I-59 as a nucleus of technology companies and resources after conducting an analysis of the corridor last May.

The brochure on the I-59 Technology Corridor will be distributed throughout the region, and information on line is available at www.I-59Ms.com.

Black history month program

The Nineteenth Annual Thomas P. Clarke Memorial Black History Month Program sponsored by the Hancock County Branch NAACP will be held on Sat. Feb. 23, 2002 at the Train Depot in Bay St. Louis.

Persons 9-19 years of age may register to participate by calling Donna Holton at 467-0973 or Goldie Fairconnetue at 467-4126 by Feb. 16.

Bay

BY
SHAI
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Last fall decided to new approach when they gram called Service Organization involved in news of its ing rapidl, tors Glos... Melissa Ma... selers at th...

The seniors the service in and earn the same time, it giving opportunity themselves ment out class room

This year been placed and Second Bay Midd...

Wav... police drug

BY
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Waveland two drug r... month, & release from Varnell. B...

On Jan. 11:30 a.m. Luck & Investigator arrested White, 34, for pres... White alle... forged pr... pharmacis... drugstore, 90 in Wav... said. Pres... a felony cr... was set at

On Jan. 11:30 a.m. offic... made a resulted Robin Leip... Waveland charged possession Parapherr... sion of a stanc... Varnell's b... Narcotics Laura Ste... the invest

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LAKESIDE

SECOND SLIDELL EXIT

Shuttle astronaut talks with local kids

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

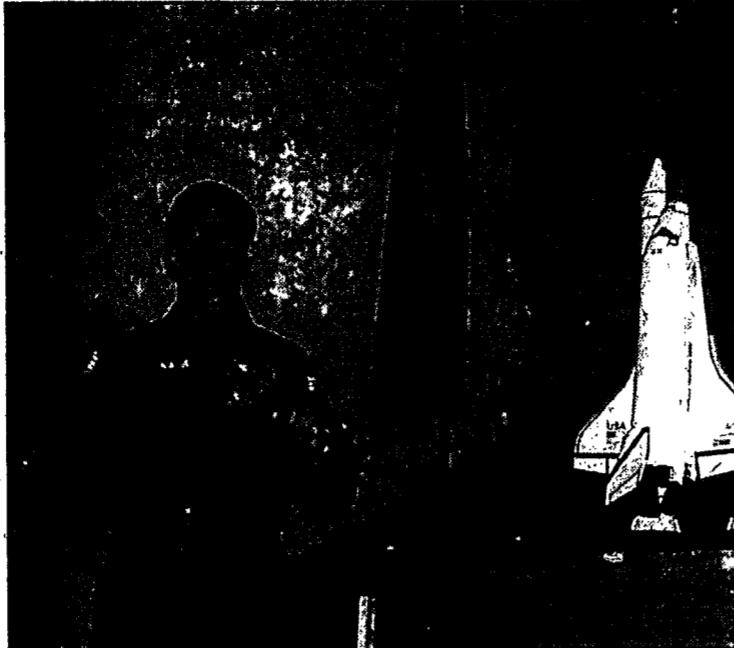
NASA Astronaut Dr. James Reilly II answered questions and entertained over 220 students from Hancock, Pass Christian, Bay St. Louis, Pearl River and other high schools, with videos and anecdotes from shuttle flights and spacewalks, recently at StennisSphere auditorium.

Reilly is a veteran of two Space Shuttle flights and three space walks and has logged over 500 hours in space, including the spacewalks totaling about 16 and a half hours.

On his last mission Reilly assisted in the installation of an airlock in the International Space Station. The airlock makes it possible for the crew to leave the shuttle and work outside, without the assistance of the shuttle.

Reilly made the first official exit from the airlock on the same day as the anniversary of the Apollo 11 moonwalk, which took place on July 20, 1969.

Reilly presented a video of the spacewalk and life on the shuttle. Because there is no gravity on the station, which travels about 250 miles above the earth, the day is spent floating around



Echo staff photo by Bennie Shalbetter
NASA's Dr. James Reilly II, veteran of two Space Shuttle flights and three space walks, speaks to local students recently at the StennisSphere.

to the various work stations. The crew was dressed in casual clothing, such as jeans, instead of space suits like one might imagine. The atmosphere in the station is breathable.

One of the women crew members with long hair kept her hair pulled back, but when let loose, her hair floated up from the lack of gravity. The crew ate from cans resembling cat food cans, but Reilly said the food was tasty. Crew members

sleep in bags with head straps which attach to the wall to keep bodies from floating to one general location, due to the air from the ventilation system, Reilly said.

Sunsets and sunrises in space look like a band of spectacular color surrounding the earth, Reilly said. The views from outside the space station are amazing.

In space you do everything with your hands and arms, from working in the

station to holding on during spacewalks, so leg muscles tend to atrophy, Reilly said. When returning from space it can take about 36 hours to readjust to gravity and longer to build atrophied muscles.

When going into space many sensations are affected, Reilly said. It takes a few days for the inner ear to adjust to the weightlessness and surroundings in which, essentially, there is no up and no down.

After a few days the inner ear shuts off its response to this sense of balance, he said, and after that the adjustment is easy. He described the situation "in earth terms" as waking up to find someone sleeping on your ceiling.

Training for space walks is rigorous, seven to ten hours of training for every hour actually spent in space. The training is done in the spacesuits in a pool at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Reilly advised students to work hard, study hard, and play hard. "Never give up on your dreams and always do what you really love to do," Reilly said. "If you are only looking at the money, you probably won't enjoy your job. There are no maps to your dreams."

Bay High getting results with mentors

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Last fall Bay High School decided to try out a whole new approach to education when they initiated a program called the Community Service Learning Organization. Only one other school in the state, West Point High School in Northern Mississippi, is involved in the program, but news of its success is spreading rapidly, said coordinators Gloria Dean and Melissa Mannion, both counselors at the school.

The program gives seniors the opportunity to do service in the community and earn school credit at the same time. More importantly, it gives students the opportunity to learn about themselves in an environment outside their familiar class room setting.

This year students have been placed at North Bay and Second St. Elementary, Bay Middle School, Hancock

County Child Development, Head Start, and RSVP, but plans are to expand the service throughout the community, coordinators said.

Over 30 students are involved in the program this year. They are required to keep portfolios and time sheets and receive an evaluation from both on-site and school supervisors.

On Tuesday, Katy Benvenutti, who plans to major in business when she graduates, was returning from her assignment at the Child Development center, where she supervises and interacts with three to five year olds.

"I never used to like children that much," Benvenutti said. "But now I look forward to going to the center. The children make my day. I never was around children much before and I found that they have very interesting ideas about the way things are and what things do ... they really want to learn."

Charles Hawkins and Sharminne Reaux were working at Head Start on Tuesday.

"I'm here because I like spending time with kids ... all kids need a role model," said Hawkins. "I've always loved children. I help take care of my one year old

cousin. I teach them how to say yes mom and no mom and respect their elders. When they all came up and hugged me after I was here a few days, it really made me feel good."

"At first I thought I wouldn't like being here but it turned out to be fun," said Reaux. The kids are a lot of work, but they are smart and funny. I tell them never to give up on anything, and you can reach your dreams and goals."

Both Hawkins and Reaux plan to become physical therapists after graduation. Hawkins will begin his college career with a football scholarship.

Volunteers work 80 hours per semester to earn one credit.

Coordinators say problem solving ability in real-life situations increases more for students involved in the service program than those in a comparison group. They also say that being able to see practical applications for studies makes them better students.

Other benefits, coordinators say is improved self image, developing or reinforcing positive social values, and increased understanding of the workplace and employer expectations. The program also promoted

Waveland police make drug busts

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER
Staff Writer

Waveland police made two drug related arrests this month, according to a release from Chief Jimmy Varnell. Both suspects are women.

On January 17 at about 11:30 a.m., officer Travis Luck and Narcotics Investigator Brett Ladner arrested Regina Denise White, 34, of Bay St. Louis, for prescription forgery. White allegedly passed two forged prescriptions to a pharmacist at Rite-Aid drugstore, located on Hwy. 90 in Waveland, the release said. Prescription forgery is a felony crime. White's bond was set at \$500.

On January 29 at about 1 a.m. officer Elfren Acosta made a traffic stop that resulted in the arrest of Robin Leigh Stevens, 40, of Waveland. Stevens was charged with the alleged possession of Drug Paraphernalia and possession of a controlled substance (crack cocaine), said Varnell's release. Stevens' bond was set at \$5,500. Narcotics Investigator Laura Stepro is in charge of the investigation.

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station to holding on during spacewalks, so leg muscles tend to atrophy, Reilly said. When returning from space it can take about 36 hours to readjust to gravity and longer to build atrophied muscles.

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Community Education

Keep Your Heart Healthy!



Cardiologist Sergio Barrios, MD will discuss cardiac risk factors and treatment of heart disease

Thursday, Feb. 14

Noon

The Bridges at Casino Magic

Cost of luncheon: \$7



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Those who and those against him and far to they simply Thursday, School off their new \$ gymnasium Bert Jenkins Jenkins 45-minute was followed boys game Admirals a Hawks. G ranked #1 before a s

Admiral Bryant score first basket dunk as C out to a 16-period. He the gym's f while Boone score first basket

The Ad fling defense first period. The Hawk 22-12 by t the second would be get with a 9-0 Hawks aw

Gulfport Brian Calo did not play should have polished a could be. been so hoopla sur ing of the opening of difficult to has been l this for so very atten Bert Jenk before the think the sense of w to the gam Mississippi

The sc the half a deep into second ha scorers w lowed by J 14 points. 11 points Ladner led 10 points i Hanc Michael L "We were play here honored wish we c ed better.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2002

OPINION

pg 4A



Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

It's big Mardi Gras time today in the Waveland-Bay area with the Krewe of Nereids rolling at 1 p.m. from Choctaw Plaza on Highway 90 east to Bouslog (by post office), then Highway 90 west to Our Shopping Center where the parade will disband.

As many of you know, the ladies of Nereids are followed by the Krewe of Eros and then the Krewe of Hancock.

Nereids' captain has the reputation to start the parade at 1 p.m. sharp, so parade goers may want to arrive a bit early to get a good viewing position.

One thing about the Highway 90 route of Nereids is the fact that there are lots of viewing areas because of the median and shoulders of the highway.

Parking is suggested on the many off streets of Highway 90 in the area.

Nereids has the largest draw for crowds in the Bay-Waveland area with many folks even coming from the Mardi Gras capital of New Orleans.

All parade goers can do a big favor for those who have the task of cleaning up after the parade. They could bring along some trash bags, and these could even be the plastic ones they bag your groceries in and place your litter in them before you leave.

Even if you do not take the litter home with you, it is a big help to those cleaning up if the trash is bagged. If there are barrels along the route, please use them.

We hope to see you at the parade this afternoon.

Last week Randy and I attended the Mississippi Press Association's mid-Winter Conference in Jackson.

We stayed at the Jackson Hilton, and as I was waiting for Randy to go get some

QUOTES--PAGE 11A

The Senate's agenda

As the U.S. Senate begins a new session, I want to assure Mississippians that my colleagues and I have some very targeted goals for the new year which include passing legislation to spur our economy, creating a national energy policy, fostering trade and agriculture and enhancing our nation's security both at home and abroad.

That's a plateful, but remember on many of these issues we are already halfway there. The U.S. House has previously passed proposals to address most of these concerns, but unfortunately a few liberals in the Senate have held up these vital initiatives for political reasons.

However, instead of more taxation and new government spending as these few propose, a large majority in Congress stand ready to act

Spurring our Economy:

Economic security legislation will grow our economy and create jobs.

The House has already

passed two versions of eco-

nomic security legislation -

one of which is a widely

accepted bipartisan bill.

If the Senate leadership

will allow a vote, a majority of

Republicans and

Democrats stand ready to

approve an economic securi-

ty package.

Our economy has been in

recession since March of last

year. The slowing economy

was accelerated by the ter-

rorist attacks of September

11. With the House action,

the Senate leadership has no

excuse for inaction regard-

ing our economy.

Energy Policy: A nation-

al energy policy is critical for the homeland of Usama Bin Laden - simply is not wise.

Our energy policy should include conservation, but it cannot stop there. Also on the table must be initiatives to boost domestic oil and gas production and alternative fuels research.

Trade and Agriculture: Mississippi's economy depends on trade and agriculture. Both are important to Mississippians who depend on open agricultural markets for their living.

American farmers are wondering why the Senate chose to take up a very par-

FROM THE SENATE

By U.S. Senator Trent Lott

policy is critical for America's economic security and our national security. Yet, even after several energy scares we do not have an energy policy.

As I have been warning for many years, if we do not formulate an energy plan, our country is going to be in huge trouble. September 11 taught us that we cannot continue depending on volatile Middle Eastern nations for our energy needs.

Tying our economic well-being to nations like Iran, Iraq and even an ally like Saudi Arabia - consequently

LOTT-PAGE 11A



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Mississippi Legislative session eyes reforming open meetings act

By Charlie Williams
Legislative Consultant

The 2002 legislative session is off and running. The lack of activity during the first two weeks has been replaced by a mad dash to meet the Feb. 5 deadline to report bills out of committees. The next step is initial passage of general bills by each chamber by Feb. 14.

Every concept, scheme and trick known to legislators has been considered during this first month. Very little has been done over the last year to stop the budget hemorrhaging, and still, demand for budget increases and expansion of programs is prevalent at the Capitol.

The House is looking at an \$84-million raid of the Tobacco Trust Fund to prop up the Medicaid Program. Supposedly, the money would be paid back each year when the revenue growth exceeds 5%. Nobody seems to recognize that the problem is spending, not revenue.

House Bill 1264 (to exempt certain records in economic development negotiations) by Simpson is the result of economic developers who insist that most prominent industrial prospects insist on anonymity and confidentiality about company financial information.

Senate Bill 2296 (telemarketing) by Chamberlin and Burton is moving ahead

with additional fine-tuning by Public Service Commissioner Neilson Cochran. Chamberlin reported that Cochran was interested in additional amendments that would be helpful to newspapers. I expect action by the Public Utilities Committee early next week.

House Bill 635 (Open Meetings)

by McBride provides a penalty for any public body that violates the Open Meetings Act. McBride has worked hard to gain support for his bill and Judiciary B Chairman Blackmon has indicated that he will support the measure. Once again, I expect committee action early next week.

House Bill 1264

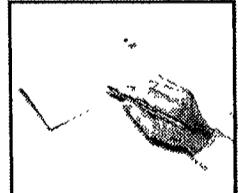
(to exempt certain records in economic development negotiations) by Simpson is the result of economic developers who insist that most prominent industrial prospects insist on anonymity and confidentiality about company financial information.

The specific new language of HB 1264 is:

Letters to the Editor

Our letters policy

The Sea Coast Echo welcomes comments from its readers. Letters must be signed and include address or telephone number. Letters should be brief, preferably typewritten and double-spaced. Only one letter per writer per month. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject letters. Letters of thanks, expressions of appreciation and political endorsements are inappropriate.



Records of a public body containing information provided by an entity in the course of negotiating a proposed eco-

nomic development or industrial project between the public body and the entity, including the execution of any agreements or contracts related to the project, shall not be subject to inspection, examination, copying or reproduction under this chapter.

That is pretty stout language!

There is usually some need for keeping certain elements of a deal under wraps until completion. The Nissan deal, universally applauded as being great for Mississippi, continues to

climb in price and commitment as more obligations of the state are revealed.

To suggest that "the execution of any agreements or contracts related to the project, shall not be subject to inspection, examination, copying or reproduction" is just asking too much of the public.

These substantial projects run from hundreds of millions into the billions of dollars. The Mississippi Center for Freedom of Information (MCFOI) has raised serious questions about HB 1264 and it should be closely scrutinized.

Reported by Charlie Williams, Legislative Consultant for the MPA

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The Sea Coast Echo

SPORTS

Hancock is Gulfport's first opponent in Gulfport's new \$3.5 Bert Jenkins gym

BY JOSEPH W. GEX II
Staff Writer

Those who played for him and those who coached against him came from near and far to honor the man they simply call "Coach." On Thursday, Gulfport High School officials dedicated their new \$3.5 million dollar gymnasium to the legendary Bert Jenkins.

Jenkins was honored in a 45-minute ceremony that was followed by a varsity boys game between the Admirals and the Hancock Hawks. Gulfport, 27-0 and ranked #1 in Mississippi, disposed of the Hawks 85-42 before a soldout crowd of 2,200.

Admirals' center James Bryant scored the facility's first basket, free throw, and dunk as Gulfport sprinted out to a 16-2 lead in the first period. Henry Salter scored the gym's first three-pointer while Hancock's Daron Boone scored the opponent's first basket.

The Admirals used stifling defense to extend their first period lead to 21-10. The Hawks cut the lead to 22-12 by the 6:03 mark of the second period but that would be as close as they would get. Gulfport followed with a 9-0 run to put the Hawks away.

Gulfport head coach Brian Caldwell stated, "We did not play as well as we should have. We were not as polished as I thought we could be. But, there has been so much hype and hoopla surrounding the closing of the old gym and the opening of this one, it was difficult to focus. The team has been looking forward to this for so long. They were very attentive to what Coach Bert Jenkins was saying before the game. Now, I think they have a better sense of what he has meant to the game in the state of Mississippi."

The score was 44-19 at the half and Gulfport went deep into their bench in the second half. Bryant led all scorers with 17 points followed by Henry Salter with 14 points. A.J. Magee added 11 points in the win. Cody Ladner led the Hawks with 10 points in the game.

Hancock head coach Michael Ladner commented, "We were very honored to play here on the night they honored Bert Jenkins. I wish we could have competed better. Gulfport is a very

quick and athletic team and they apply a lot of pressure on their opponents. We just were not able to execute tonight."

Bert Jenkins was joined with family and friends who have known him or player for him from 1949 through 1989. Gerald Austin, an assistant to Jenkins for 19 seasons, introduced the legend to the crowd. Others that were on hand to honor Jenkins were Harrison County Sheriff George Payne who played for Jenkins, senior Gulfport city councilman Jimmie Jenkins, Rod Walker who played on the 1979 state championship team, and Mike Guel from the 1970 state championship team.

Walker was quick to point out that Jenkins "...saw talent and character in a young man. And, he brought out the very best in everyone that he came in contact with."

Bert Jenkins was hired by legendary athletic director Lindy Callahan in 1949 after Jenkins had returned home from World War II. Jenkins lost a leg in the war. Jenkins taught and coached at Gulfport Junior High from 1949 to 1961. Callahan asked Jenkins to be the boys head basketball coach for the Gulfport High Commodores from 1961-77. And, after consolidation of the two schools in 1977 Jenkins remained to coach the varsity team until his retirement in 1989.

During his tenure as coach, Jenkins won 866 games and lost just 180. He won seven state championships and 13 Big 8 titles. He recorded twenty 20-win seasons, eighteen 30-win seasons, and three 40-win seasons. He was elected to the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame in 1981 and the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame in 1999.

The cavernous Bert Jenkins Gymnasium holds a capacity of 2,200 between an upper deck and lower deck of retractable bleachers.

There are three full length courts in the facility which features four varsity dressing rooms, four coaches' offices, a sports medicine room, a weight training room, two laundries, the athletic director's office, and a secretary's office. As you walk into the gym, one is greeted with a trophy case that houses the 13 Big 8

golden balls, as well as, the seven state championship trophies. The floor is a Boston Square pattern with about 14,000 square feet of surface. The practice goals are retractable and the game goals are certified NBA portable goals.

In other action this past week, SSC and OLA both move on in the state soccer playoffs while several area hardwood teams get into the action.

On Tuesday, January 29, the St. Stanislaus Rock-a-chaws and the OLA Crescents each advanced to the second round of the state soccer playoffs. The Rocks posted a 6-1 win over the D'Iberville Warriors while OLA shutout Clarkdale 9-0.

The Bay High Lady Tigers were ousted from the state soccer playoffs with a 1-0 loss to Gautier. Ashley Crisman scored the hat trick for OLA and Rachel Cranford scored twice for the Crescents. Emily Meyers, Mikki Kenny, Jennifer Coote, and Lauren Rittner each scored in the game. OLA goalie had to make just one stop in the game at the net.

The Bay High Tigers split a pair of games with the

Biloxi Indians in high school basketball action on Tuesday. The Lady Tigers (20-6, 9-1) spearhead the Indians 60-43. Carmen Labat scored 18 points and five steals to lead Bay High. Kendra Reed added 12 points and six rebounds in the win.

The boys team fell to the Indians 76-58. Rudy Lymuel scored 22 points to lead Bay High (9-15).

OLA dropped a close game with St. John 47-40 in girls basketball action on Tuesday. Vaida McNally scored 12 points and DeNira Dedeaux added 11 points for the Crescents.

The Hancock Lady Hawks (19-8) scored a 57-49 win over the Long Beach Bearkittens on Tuesday. Devin Necaise scored 22 points, six assists, and six rebounds for Hancock.

Brooke Necaise added 13 points and three steals in the win. LaTisha Shiyou added 13 rebounds down low for Hancock.

The Pass Christian boys (22-4, 11-0) disposed of the St. Martin Yellow Jackets 64-35 on Tuesday in non-division action. Kelvin Woods led the Pirates with 16 points.

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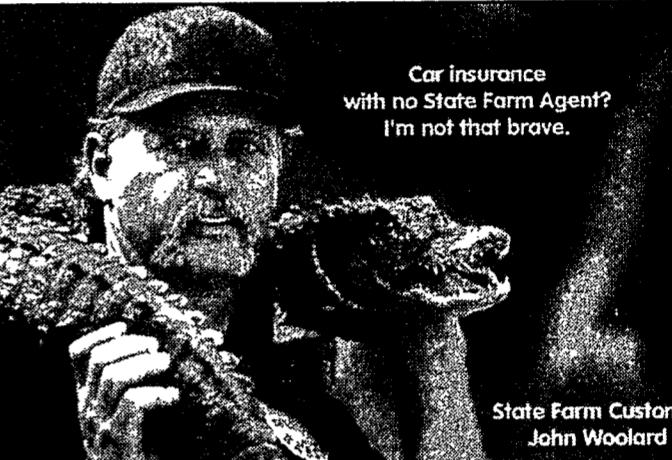
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RAMS

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A capsule look at the 2002 Super Bowl

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VS. ST. LOUIS (16-2) RECORD VS. SPREAD
OPENING LINE Rams - Patriots 12-5; Rams 10-7.
 by 151/2.
LATEST LINE Rams Rams lead 5-3.

LAST MEETING Rams beat Patriots 24-17 on Nov. 18 at New England. Patriots QB Tom Brady was 19-for-27, 2 INTs, 1 TD and 185 yards. Rams QB Kurt Warner was 30-for-42, 2 INTs, 3 TDs and 401 yards.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS Patriots beat Steelers 24-17; Rams beat Eagles 29-24.

P O S T S E A S O N R E C O R D S - Patriots 9-10; Rams 18-21.

R E C O R D V S . C O M - M O N O P P O N E N T S - Patriots 7-2; Rams 8-1.

PATRIOTS OFFENSE - RUSH (13), PASS (22), OVERALL (19)

Gained 259 yards, 192 passing vs. Steelers. RB Antowain Smith had 15 carries for 47 yards. QB Brady was 12-for-18, 0 INTs, 0 TDs and 115 yards before leaving with ankle injury. QB Drew Bledsoe was 10-for-21, 0 INTs, 1 TDs and 102 yards. WR Troy Brown had 8 catches for 121 yards.

RAMS OFFENSE - RUSH (5), PASS (1), OVERALL (1)

Gained 371 yards, 161 rushing vs. Eagles. RB Marshall Faulk had 31 carries for 159 yards. QB Warner was 22-for-33, 0 INTs, 1 TD and 212 yards. WR Isaac Bruce had 8 catches for 84 yards.

PATRIOTS DEFENSE - RUSH (19), PASS (24), OVERALL (24)

Allowed 306 yards, 248 passing. Had 3 sacks and 3 INTs. DB Ty Law had 7 tackles and DB Otis Smith had 6 tackles and 1 assist. DE Willie McGinest had 5 tackles, 1 assist and 1 sack.

RAMS DEFENSE - RUSH (3), PASS (10), OVERALL (3)

Gave up 256 yards, 146 passing. Had 3 sacks and 1 INT. LB Tommy Polley had 7 tackles and 4 assists. DB Aeneas Williams had 7 tackles, 1 assist and 1 INT.

SPECIAL TEAMS -

PATRIOTS: Brown had a 55-yard punt return for TD. DT Brandon Mitchell blocked a FG, which was recovered by Brown and returned 11 yards before he lateralized to Antwan Harris, who went 49 yards for TD. **RAMS:** KR Yo Murphy had 3 returns for 95 yards. PK Jeff Wilkins had 3 FGs (27, 39, 41).

KEY MATCHUP - Patriots' defense-minded coach Bill Belichick vs. Rams' offense-minded coach Mike Martz.

STREAKS, STATS AND NOTES - This is the ninth game hosted by New Orleans and the sixth played

at the Superdome. ... The AFC is the home team. ... New England is 10th team to start 0-2 and win division. Last 3 teams to accomplish feat, 1993 Cowboys, 1996 and 2001 Patriots, went to Super Bowl. ... New England is playing in third Super Bowl, all in New Orleans. ... RB Smith had 1,157 yards rushing this season. ... WR Brown had team-record 101 catches for 1,199 yards receiving. ... Brown led NFL with 14.2 punt return average. ... Brady, who will become the third youngest QB to start a Super Bowl, is 13-3 as starter, 7-1 at home. He had a team playoff record

of 312 yards passing in divisional game win over Raiders. ... PK Adam Vinatieri (10 FGs) broke Tony Franklin's team playoff record last week. ... Rams tied N.Y. Giants for second with 25th postseason appearance. Dallas leads with 26. ... Rams QB Warner led NFL with 4,830 yards passing and 36 TD passes, becoming sixth player in NFL history to win MVP more than once (1999, 2001). ... RB Faulk, the AP Offensive Player of the Year, was third in NFC with 1,382 yards rushing and first in NFC with 12 TDs rushing. He also led team with 83 catches. He is first player in NFL history with 4 consecutive 2,000-yard seasons from scrimmage. ... DE Leonard Little was second in NFC with 14½ sacks. ... PK Wilkins led NFL kickers with 127 points (23-for-29 on FGs, 58-for-58 on PATs). ... WR Holt led team with 1,363 yards receiving on 81 catches. ... Defense has not allowed a 100-yard rusher this season, including playoffs. ... DB Williams has 6 INTs in 4 career playoff games, including 2 INT returns for TDs (29, 32) in divisional win over Green Bay. ... St. Louis has 6 Pro Bowl selections.

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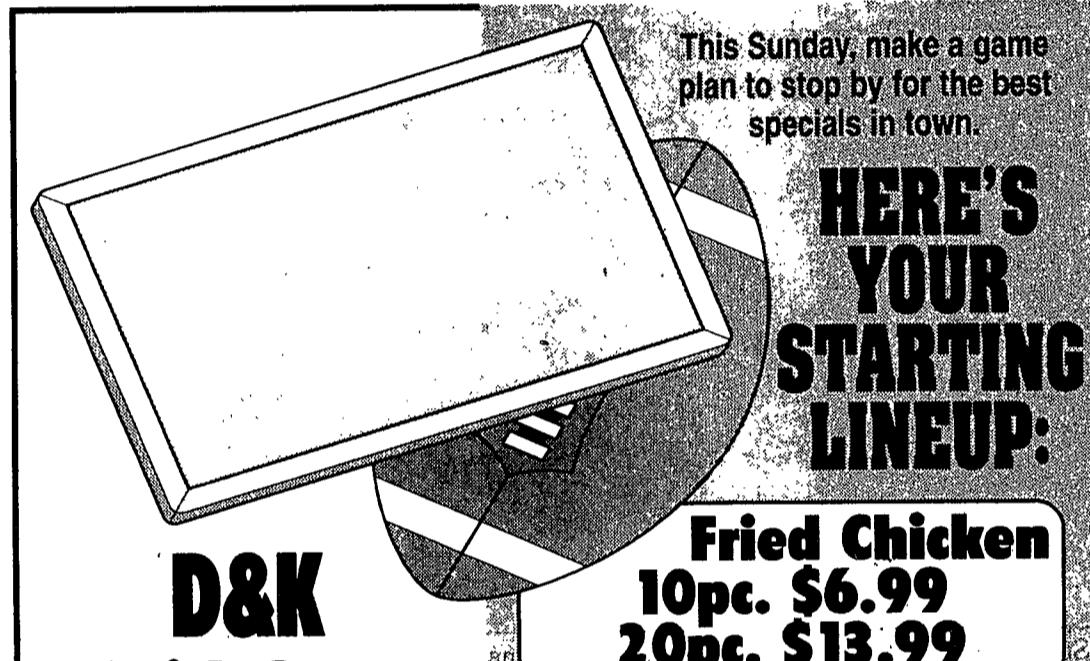
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Computer says take Patriots and the points in Super Bowl

A computer service that has supplied statistical analysis to a number of NFL teams since 1975 projects the St. Louis Rams will beat the New England Patriots by five points in the Super Bowl should the teams play to previous form.

The Rams are listed as 14-point favorites for Sunday's game in New Orleans.

Bud Goode's service, BudGoodeSports.com, says yards per pass attempt is the most important NFL statistic, and should separate winner from loser in the Super Bowl.



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Kayleigh Davis, Sara Dedeaux, Adrienne Domico, Robert Eberhart, Amolie Egloff, Erin Floyd, Brandis Haynes, Camille Keith, Brianna Keyes, Kevin Kuperstock

Danielle LeBlanc, Mercedes Lester, Miriah Munger, Katrina Murray, Tristan Pace, Lauren Parker, Sarah Rauch

Ryan Rutledge, Heather Schmottlach, Alexis Summers, Jasmine Swanier, Katelyn Thompson, Lauren Turcotte, Candace White, Bryant Wilson

Beta: Cynthia Akers, Stefan Arnold, Kayla Asher, Brennan Bell, Lindsey Bell, Chenea Bilbo, Christopher Bounds, Lindsey Calhoun

Adrienne Callahan, Joshua Campbell, Tiffany Carr, Tiffany Carver, Jonathan Chester, Allison Chisholm, Edward Dedeaux, Ariel Domico, Thomas Duveliehl, Brian Easley, Russell Elliott, Charles Eubanks, Trey Guillory, Richard Hannah, Krystal Hernandes

Rebeckah Kersanac, Ryan Kingston, Alycia Ladner, Dustin Lafontaine, Alecia Lambeth, Blair Landry, Travis Leahy, Chaquile Lewis, Justin Main

Shane Mangerchine, Shannon Murphy, Matthew Murray, Wilbert Myles, Ashton Norton, Michael Pabon, Brant Pernicaro, William Phillips, Brian Porter, Christopher Proulx, Brittany Radtke, Elizabeth Reed, Anna Ring, Phillip Roan, Tyler Rogers, Brittany Rouyer, Kristie Scaife, Suada Shera

Otto Singleton, Dustin Slade, Kelsey Smith, Garrett Sotak, Laurie Spiers, Gina Steno, Donetta Stewart

Amanda Tanguis, Hillary Thomas, Kristian Thornton, Brittany Watson, Krystin White, Kristina Williams, Trent Williams, Brittany Williamson, Joeneka Willis, Justin Wyatt

SEVENTH GRADE

Alpha: D'ondre Bell, Courtney Bissonnette, Sydney Bourdeau, Michelle Bradley, Anna Breland, Jacob Brou, Robyn Buehler, Thomas Cassibry, Joshua Garcia

Sarah Gardner, Stephanie Gardner, Emily Giattina, D. R. Grieves, Quincy Hall, Reuben Hawkins, Rebecca Hubbard, Ha Huynh, Madison Laughlin

Blain Lee, Rachel Minear, Kaniesha Montgomery, Chad Moore, Katie Morris, Robert Nease, Aspen Nero, Linda Nguyen, Heath Riddle, Shawn Riddle, Katie Rivera, Kimberly Robertson

Elyse Roques, Champaign Rosemond, Meggan Sapp, Meghan Schmitt, Lorna Stanton, Daniella Sweeney, Stephanie Townsend, Lindsey Trotter, Maxwell Zingarelli

Beta: Brittany Alleman, Robert Bare, Brunetta Barnes, Arielle Bell, Brittany Bernos, Jesse Bourgeois, Ashlee Carter

Alisha Carver, John Chagnard

Desiree Chatman, Ceige Clark, Joseph Cucurullo, Brandy Dailey, Robert Davis, Therrel Davis, Logan Dedeaux, Seana Deselles, Ashley Dougherty, Cassie Duvernay

Breanna Effler, Jessica Favre, Sarah Favre, Kolt Fayard, Nicholas Gaudin, Robert Gilbert, George Guichet

Catherine Hammond, Richmond Harris, Timothy Harrison, Heather Harvison, Ashley Hoffman, Catherine Holzhauser, Melinda Jackson, Jessica Johnson, Victor Johnson, Jamie Jordan

Lillie Kelly, Phillip Kientz, Zachary Kingston, Katherine Langdon, Ngoc Le, Alexa Love, David Massey, Sean McMaster

Christina Mumme, Christina Murphy, Adam Noble, Patrick Patel, Elwin Perrot, Kayla Polkey, Louis Prendergast, Tamara Reed

Heather Richardson, Sean Scadlock, Brittany Scott, Brittany Seibert, Syrina Singleton

Nicholas Sires, Alexa Smith, Elizabeth Stahl, Bradley Standfuss, Bruce Standfuss, Cory Stringer

Crystal Summers, Sandra Summers, John Tenney, Louise Vaughn, Amanda Walker, Emily Westmoreland, Deric Williams

EIGHTH GRADE

Alpha: Jeffrey Baudin, Brie Black, Amanda Brogle, Kristina Broussard, Sirena Carpenter, Deshaina Dawson, Casey Dedeaux, Elise Fouasnon, Paulina Ganuchea, Heather Jeanfreau, Gregory Johnson, Paul Keith, Kahla Matthews, Rebecca McIntosh, Hunter Mitchell, Quoc Nguyen, Tasia Poyadou, Tiffany Sheppard, Rosa Stevens, Jessica Trotter, Margaret Walley

Beta: Jasmine Acker, Douglas Adams, Maja Alombro, Patrice Bennett, Monet Bourgeois, Meghan Breedon, Tamara Campbell, Whitley Cann, Chantel Clark

Heath Colletti, Tabitha Dastugue, Corey Delhommer, Juanita Easley, Heidi Egloff, Meghan Ellis, Valerie Ellis, Cody Famularo

Whitney Favre, Destiny Flood, Tina Fontenot, Stephanie Gieseler, Courtenay Ginn, Tiffany Goulart

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PRCC Dean's List

Pearl River Community College has released its Dean's List for the 2001 Fall Semester. Students making the Dean's list achieved a 3.4 GPA or higher.

Bay St Louis: Bertram G. Hopgood, Neil Favre, Ashley A. Foster, Luke Johnson, Lydia B. Steber, Keri A. Barksdale, Joni M. Comprett, Abbie M. Favre

Kiln: Christy M. Askins, Angel Freed, Keresa L. Ladner, Stephanie K. Ladner

Lakeshore: Mandy L. Hall, Alison L. Walsh

Pass Christian: Jaynell E. Ladner

Waveland: Shawn M. Fayard, David Heaps, August C. McKay III, Andrea M. Sellier

Head Start registration

All children who will be 3 or 4 years of age on or before Sept. 1, 2002 are eligible and encouraged to apply at the Bay-Waveland Head Start Center, 301 Necessaire Avenue, Bay St. Louis.

Interested parents will need to have a certified birth certificate, proof of family income (W-2 form), compliance letter from the health department, and a Social Security card.

• Of course, red roses are the statement to make. However, this year, mix them in with a bundle of twigs for a different look.

• For a quick and sexy dessert, cut store-bought brownies into heart shapes and top with freshly whipped cream flavored with Disaronno (approx. 12 cups per pint of heavy whipping cream, to taste).

• Set the mood with jazz classics from Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughn or Mel Tormé, or with something more contemporary like the lush new Man Ray compilation CD.

• Sweets for your sweet: line a small plate or platter with rose petals and top with chocolate-dipped dried apricots and strawberries.

• Don't forget to sprinkle a few rose petals on the pillows too.

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recipe for a night of amorous endeavors. Charm

your sweetheart with flavor of Disaronno is

enjoyed by millions each year. Here are ten tips from the makers of the original Italian "liqueur of love" designed to ignite passion and make this Valentine's

Day special, from setting the mood to setting the table.

TANTALIZING TIPS FOR TRYSTING

• Print passages from your favorite love poems on off-white linen paper and singe the edges of the pages for an aged look.

The Disaronno history of igniting romance is intimately connected with the spirit of this lovers' holiday.

In 1525, Bernardino Luini, an Italian fresco painter arrived in the small town of Saronno, Italy. He'd been commissioned to paint

a fresco of the Madonna in the recently refurbished

sanctuary of Santa Maria delle Grazie. He stayed at a

small inn where he was

captivated by the beauty of the innkeeper, a young,

fair-haired widow. He was

convinced that she could

be the perfect model of the

Madonna for his fresco,

and he convinced her to sit

for him. During their sessions, the young widow

fell deeply in love with the

kind and gentle painter.

She wished to give him a

gift, but had little money.

With only passion as a

budget, she soaked a

handful of apricot stones

in brandy and offered the

flavored liqueur to Luini

as an expression of her

love. The legend goes that

Luini painted the Madonna

with a slight smile and a

slight blush on her cheeks.

Legend has it that the

innkeeper was so pleased

with the painting that she

offered to marry him.

He accepted and they

were married and lived

happily ever after.

Legend also has it that

the innkeeper was a

disaronno liqueur fan

and that he gave the

Madonna a disaronno

liqueur kiss.

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Obituaries

GREGORY AMES
RYL DAHL
PHILLIP HARPER
DONNA HERRMANN
CHRISTIAN LADNER
JAMES LADNER
DALE RHODES
ALCUS MIRE

GREGORY AMES

Gregory Ames, 82, of Bay St. Louis, died Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Gregory was a native of Fort Lyon, Colo., and a resident of Bay St. Louis for more than 33 years. He was a member of Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis and was a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard having served in World War II as a boatswain's mate. He retired from Stennis Space Center after 32 years of service.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Matthew Howard and Harriet Calkins Ames.

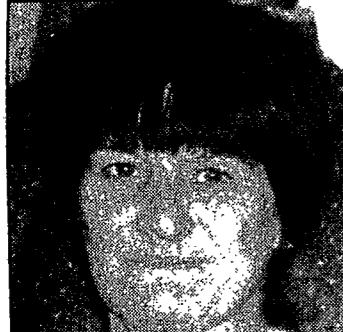
Survivors include his wife, Jenny Lu Ames of Bay St. Louis; three sons, Gregory Hall Ames of Colorado Springs, Colo., Matthew Harding Ames of Denver, Colo., and Theodore Howard Ames of Bay St. Louis; three daughters, Lu Ann Rouas of Larkspur, Calif., Rachel Rebecca Rohr of Baton Rouge and Mary Holiday Hansen of Kennesaw, Ga.; a brother, Howard Emerson Ames of Taos, N.M.; a sister, Carol C. Macey of Palo Alto, Calif.; and eight grandchildren.

Visitation will be Monday, Feb. 4, 10-11 a.m. at Edmond Fahey Funeral Home in Bay St. Louis followed by a memorial service. Interment will follow at 1:30 p.m. in Biloxi National Cemetery.

RYL DAHL

Ryl Dahl, 67, of Waveland, died Thursday, Jan. 31, 2002, in Diamondhead.

Arrangements are incomplete at Riemann Funeral



Home in Bay St. Louis.

**IN MEMORIAM
IN LOVING MEMORY
OF
CECILE FRANCES
"CECI" BILBO**
FEB. 6, 1978 - AUG. 14, 1999



Our beautiful, precious Ceci, we are with you on this special day. We hold so many memories of you. What you have given to us can never be replaced.

You brought us so much joy and laughter. You accomplished so much in the short time you were with us. We are so proud of what you have achieved in life.

You were so bright, resourceful, loved life and never met a stranger. Thank you for your beautiful smile, your warm, kind nature and for just being yourself.

Happy Birthday, sweetheart! We'll always love and miss you. You are forever in our hearts.

The Families of Cecile "Ceci" Bilbo

DONNA HERRMANN
 Donna Saucier Perry Herrmann, 41, of Kiln, died Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mrs. Herrmann was a native of Bay St. Louis and a lifelong resident of Kiln. She was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Dedeaux.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Mearl Peterson Saucier.

Survivors include sons

Jack Joseph Perry, Jr. of Biloxi and Charles Herrmann, IV and Jessie Billiot, both of Bay St. Louis;

a daughter, Shauna White of Bay St. Louis; his father, Verne James Saucier, Sr. of Kiln; five brothers, Curtis James Saucier and Frank James Saucier, both of Bay St. Louis, Vernon James Saucier, Benny Ray Saucier and Vernie James Saucier, Jr., all of Kiln; four sisters, Belinda S. Abadie, Patricia S. Cook and Megan Saucier, all of Kiln, and Melissa S. Mitchell of Picayune; and three grandchildren.

Visitation will be Monday,

Feb. 4, from 5 p.m. until at the Dedeaux Community Center. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Tuesday at 11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Dedeaux. Interment will follow at Alphonse-Malley Cemetery in Kiln.

Edmond Fahey Funeral

Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

PHILLIP HARPER

Phillip George Harper, 64, of Bay St. Louis, died Monday, Jan. 28, 2002, in Bay St. Louis.

Mr. Harper was a native of Eau Claire, Wis. and a resident of Bay St. Louis for the past 16 years. He was a United States Army veteran having served in the Panama 72nd Airborne. He retired from Outboard Marine Corporation in 1985.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Daniel and Lorena Roycraft Harper; six brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include a daughter, Julie Scherer of Casa Grande, Ariz.; a brother, Ernie Harper of Alamo, Texas; and a sister, Lois Harper of Krum, Texas.

Memorial services will be conducted at a later date.

Edmond Fahey Funeral

Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

DALE RHODES

Dale Rhodes, 44, of Gulfport, died Tuesday, Jan. 29, 2002, in Gulfport.

Mr. Rhodes was born in Hattiesburg and was a long-time resident of Gulfport. He was employed as a truck driver and was a Christian.

Survivors include his wife, Yvette Dronet Rhodes of Gulfport; a daughter, Cindy Rhodes of Biloxi; three sons, Richard White of Pass Christian, Jonathan White and Aaron Rhodes, both of Gulfport; two sisters, Betty Brooks of Biloxi and Linda Huffman of Gulfport; three brothers, Gerald Rhodes, Jimmy Rhodes and Lewis Rhodes, all of Saucier; his parents, J. E. and Helen Rhodes of Perkinston; his grandfather, Ike Rogers; and a grandchild.

Visitation was Friday

evening at Howard Avenue Chapel of Bradford-O'Keefe

Funeral Home in Biloxi.

Private memorial services

will be conducted at a later date.

Edmond Fahey Funeral

Home in Bay St. Louis is in charge of arrangements.

CHRISTIAN LADNER

Christian Levy Ladner, Sr., 70, of Kenner, died Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2002, in Baton Rouge.

Mr. Ladner was a native of Waveland and a resident of Kenner. He was a member of St. Clare Catholic Church in Waveland and a graduate of St. Stanislaus in Bay St. Louis.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Christian Levy and Marrietta Bourgeois Ladner, Sr.; and a brother, Charles L. Ladner.

Survivors include his

wife, Theresa Gregoire

Ladner of Kenner; sons Dale

Ladner of Lafayette,

Christian Levy Ladner, III of Mandeville and David

Ladner of Metairie; a daughter, Rebecca Ladner Healy of New Orleans; a niece, Amy

Ladner of Picayune; two

grandchildren and a great-

granddaughter.

A prayer service will be

conducted Monday, Feb. 4 at

11:30 a.m. in Fayard

Cemetery in Waveland fol-

lowed by burial.

Edmond Fahey Funeral

Home in Bay St. Louis is in

charge of arrangements.

ALCUS MIRE

Alcus Mire, 81, of Diamondhead, died

Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2002, in

Bay St. Louis.

Services are pending at

Lakelawn Metairie Funeral

Home in New Orleans.

Edmond Fahey Funeral

Home in Bay St. Louis han-

dled local arrangement.

Card of Thanks

The family of Wilmer E.

(Wimpy) Seymour would

like to express their sincere

and heartfelt "Thank you"

to all friends, family, clergy

and medical professionals

for their help, concern, and

most of all - prayers. We

thank you again and ask for

your continued prayers

through this most

difficult time.

Sincerely,

The "Wimpy"

Seymour Family

Coast volunteers travel to Hawaii to aid arthritis work

BY BENNIE
SHALLBETTER

Staff Writer

Last month eight volunteers from the Coast flew to Hawaii to join others from across the nation to represent the Arthritis Foundation by running or walking in the 26-mile Honolulu Marathon to help raise money for arthritis research.

As a result of the event, the Foundation raised over \$4 million nationwide.

Participants were Arthritis Foundation board member Bill Haney, Lora Lewis, Randy Stoker, Gretchen Breland, "Super Dave" Johnson, Allison Gunther and Frank Baktis.

Hancock County Arthritis Foundation director Phyllis Goodey went to organize the effort and act as head cheerleader.

Last week several of the participants got together to exchange photographs and reminisce.

"I found the event on the Internet, and it sounded like a good cause," said Stoker. Stoker trained by running along with young Dan McAndrews, who is a victim of juvenile rheumatoid arthritis. Stoker purchased a bike for McAndrews and ran alongside the bike.

Each person had their own reasons for running the race.

Lora Lewis continued her commitment even though she and her husband and five children moved to Texas a couple of months before the event. When the original coach was forced to quit, she stepped in as assistant coach.

"The support to finish the race was overwhelming," said Gunther. "I was about to quit, but a man from South Carolina pushed me to go on and stayed with me to the finish line."

"My father has arthritis," said Johnson. "I met Phyllis last year and she called and asked me to help. I decided it was time for me to be out there doing something instead of sitting at home."

Johnson helped raise donations on his morning radio show.

Gretchen Breland sacrificed a little more than she

expected as a result of the race, which took place in hilly (more like mountainous, participants said) ter-

rain.

Breland was a victim of rhabdomylosis, or compartment syndrome, a blood poisoning that is the result of muscles breaking down.

She underwent emergency surgery to both legs, and spent 10 days in the hospital. It may be months before doctors know if she will ever be able to walk without braces on her legs.

Arthritis is not just a disease of old age, in fact, it is the leading cause of disabilities in all people over the age of 15 years of age.

It affects 42.7 million Americans or one in every six persons. Nearly three of every five people affected are under the age of 65 years old, say web sources.

Arthritis is defined as an inflammation of the joints, tendons, ligaments, and muscles and is not a single disease, but encompasses over 171 conditions.

It is characterized by per-

sistent joint pain, pain or

tenderness in a joint that is

aggravated by any move-

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expected as a result of the race, which took place in hilly (more like mountainous, participants said) ter-

rain.

Students from Bay High School, Bay-Waveland Middle School, St. Stanislaus College, and Our Lady Academy participated in "A Tolerance Rally" Wednesday night at the Bay High School Auditorium.

The rally was designed to enhance and promote acceptance and tolerance of all cultures, ethnicities, genders, socio-economic standings, and religions.

The students spent many weeks planning for the rally that incorporated poetry, skits, dance and art into the program.

Students in Stacey Gorum's class at North Bay Elementary performed a song and dance for the rally.

The guest speaker was Dr. Shirley Bowles, a professor from the University of Southern Mississippi, who filled in for Dr. Frank Melton who had to cancel due to a family medical emergency.

The peer mediators from Bay High School interpreted the song "Imagine" in multicultural costumes.

The performance closed with the song "Love in Many Languages" performed by the OLA choir.

This was the first collaborative Tolerance Rally between schools in the Bay St. Louis-Waveland area.

WALK-INS WELCOME

KILN
**HANCOCK FAMILY
CARE CENTER**

Hwy 16230 Suite G. 255-5200

The Sea Coast Echo

BUSINESS NEWS

Cellular South collects used wireless phones to benefit Coast YMCAs

Cellular South starts out the New Year with the launch of a used phone collection effort to benefit Mississippi Gulf Coast YMCAs.

For each used wireless phone collected, funds will be donated directly to Coast YMCAs for use in community programs for children and youth.

Donated phones will be accepted at the Ocean Springs YMCA on Government Street and Cellular South locations in Bay St. Louis, Biloxi, Gulfport, Ocean Springs and

Pascagoula. The program will conclude on Feb. 28.

"The primary goal of

Cellular South's Donate a Phone Program is to collect

wireless phones that are not

being used in order to generate

financial contributions

for Coast YMCA programs," said Jim Richmond, Cellular South area manager.

"This program gives

Cellular South a chance to

make a contribution to our

community at a time when

private funds are key to non-

profits' ability to continue

quality services."

By turning over donated

phones to national program

partners for refurbishment,

Cellular South will accrue

charitable dollars set aside

by the Wireless Foundation's

national Donate a Phone

program.

The Cellular Telecommunications &

Internet Association estimates

that Americans own

more than 30 million used

wireless phones that now lie

idle in homes and businesses.

Any wireless phones are

accepted, excluding bag

phones or vehicle-installed

models. Batteries and charg-

ers are also accepted.

Cellular South, headquartered in Jackson, is the largest privately held wireless provider in the United States.

As a leading regional wireless provider, Cellular South is licensed to provide wireless service in five southeastern states including Alabama, Arkansas, the Florida Panhandle, Mississippi and Southwest Tennessee.

For more information, contact Cellular South at 1-877-CSOUTH1 or visit cel-

larshouth.com.

Two college savings options: Coverdell and 529

If you have children who will be attending college in a few years, you recently got a nice pre-enrollment gift from Uncle Sam.

Specifically, the Tax Relief Act of 2001 enhanced the Coverdell Savings Plan (formerly the Education IRA) and Section 529 plans, giving you more attractive options for college funding.

Let's take a look at how these plans compare in some key areas:

- Tax advantages – Your contributions to a Coverdell Savings Plan are not tax-deductible, but all earnings and withdrawals are tax-free, provided you use the money for qualified education expenses. (The new tax law also allows Coverdell Savings Plans to be used to help fund elementary and secondary school education.)

Section 529 plans are offered as either prepaid tuition plans or state-sponsored college savings accounts. Until the Tax Relief Act, you would have had to pay taxes when you took distributions from your 529 plan.

These taxes were based on either the increased value of the tuition contract or the savings account earnings. The taxes were assessed at



Financial Focus

Submitted by Craig Foster
Edward Jones Co.

the student's tax rate, but they still had to be paid. However, starting in 2002, all qualified withdrawals will be free from federal income tax, although the money will appear on the child's tax return.

• Contribution limits – Effective in 2002, if you meet certain income limits, you can contribute \$2,000 a year to a Coverdell Savings Plan, up from just \$500. By contrast, Section 529 plan contribution limits are typically quite high – more than \$200,000 per beneficiary in many state plans.

You also can contribute as little as \$15 per month, although contribution limits vary by state. (Before making any major contributions to a Section 529 plan, you'll want to consult with your tax adviser, because gift and estate tax laws may be involved.)

- Investment options – A Coverdell Savings Plan offers you an almost limit-

less array of investment options – stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, etc. If you establish a Section 529 college savings account, you can choose from the investment options offered by the particular state's plan that you've selected.

- Effect on financial aid – Because a Coverdell Savings Plan must be set up in the child's name, a college's financial aid office will count it in his or her assets when calculating aid packages.

Colleges generally require children to contribute about 35 percent of their assets for college costs, compared with less than 6 percent of parents' assets.

On the other hand, a 529 plan's savings account is considered your asset, with your child or grandchild the beneficiary. However, any money you withdraw from a 529 plan will show up as income on your child or grandchild's tax return this year – and this income,

although not federally taxed, will be considered for aid the next year.

As you can see, you must consider several factors before establishing either a Coverdell Savings Plan or a Section 529 plan.

Fortunately, you no longer have to choose between the two; the new tax laws allow you to invest in both simultaneously, beginning this year. Whichever path you choose, get started soon. College costs continue to increase rapidly – so you'll want to be ready when you get that first bill from the bursar's office.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

CLOSE FRIDAY

2-1-02

COMPANY/SYMBOL	LAST PRICE	WEEKLY CHANGE
ALCAN ALUM/AL	38.32	+ .29
AT & T/T	17.33	- 1.13
AUTOZONE INC/AZO	67.11	+ 2.35
BELLSOUTH/BLS	39.70	+ 1.36
BOEING/BA	41.46	+ .98
CALGON CARBON/CCC	7.81	unchg
CHEVRON /CVX	85.37	- 3.19
COCA COLA/KO	44.68	- .49
CSX CORP/CSX	39.69	+ .50
DUPONT/DD	43.58	- .41
GENERAL ELEC/GE	36.85	- 1.42
GOODYEAR TIRE/GT	23.69	+ .35
HANCOCK HOLDING CO/HBHC	47.04	+ 2.60
INTL BUSINESS MACHINE/IBM	108.00	- 1.28
INTL PAPER CO/IP	41.77	+ .68
K MART CORP/KM	1.55	+ .70
LOCKHEED MARTIN/LMT	52.43	+ 2.43
PARK PLACE ENT/PPE	9.73	- .77
PEN NATL GAMING/PENN	31.95	+ 1.13
PEOPLES FINANCIAL /PFBX	13.50	- .50
MCDONALDS CORP/MCD	26.63	+ 1.01
MIRANT /MIR	11.04	- .25
REGIONS FINANCIAL/RGFR	31.29	- .26
ROCKWELL INTL CORP/ROK	18.77	- .10
SOUTHERN COMPANY/SO	24.65	- .23
UNION PLANTERS/UPC	44.95	- .81
WAL MART STORES/WMT	59.26	+ .86
WELLMAN INC/WLM	13.60	+ .13
WHITNEY HOLDING/WTNY	44.72	+ .50

Submitted by Craig Foster, Edward Jones Co.

Credit union earns exceptional rating

Keesler Federal Credit Union received a superior rating for the year 2001 by Bauer Financial Reports, the nation's leading financial institution research firm.

Keesler Federal Credit Union has received consecutive five-star ratings since 1990.

In addition to the superior rating, Keesler Federal Credit Union receives the prestigious exceptional rating reserved for those institu-

tions that have maintained a five-star rating for at least a decade.

The rating criteria are based upon data reported to the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA), the governing body for credit unions.

Factors considered for the ratings include, but are not limited, to capital, historical trends, loan delinquencies, profitability, regulatory compliance and asset quality.

Credit unions that receive

each of these forms of business ownership has legal and tax advantages and disadvantages. The instructor will be Stan Lewis, CPA and USM professor. Fee is \$20 per person in advance or \$25 per person at the door. To prepay, mail check made payable to USM SBDC to USM Small Business Development Center, 136 Beach Park Place, Long Beach, MS 39560.

The workshop will cover the different forms of business ownership – sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, and Limited Liability Company.

Until we start throwing money out the window, this is about as exciting as banking gets.

Market-rate interest. Unlimited access. Let the

festivities begin. With UPComplete Checking, you

can finally get the benefits of a money market account with all the freedom

of a checking account. It's a simple idea whose time has come.

Your money earns a market rate of return* – and is FDIC-insured to give you peace of mind. Combine that with features like unlimited check-writing, free online bill-paying, free checks, and a free debit card, and you've got a brand-new concept in banking. And here's another reason to rejoice: We don't charge you for using another bank's ATM.*

Doesn't that sound like cause for celebration? See your local

Union Planters Bank for details. www.unionplanters.com

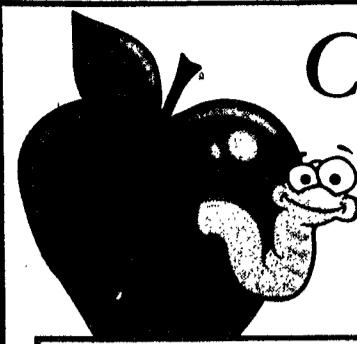
UNION
PLANTERS
BANK

*Your interest rate may vary, depending on your balance. **Union Planters will not charge you for using a non-Union Planters Bank ATM, a usage fee may be charged by the owner of the ATM. Fees may reduce earnings on account. \$100 minimum balance to open. \$5,000 minimum daily balance to avoid monthly fee. Annual Percentage Yield (APY) on balances of \$10,000 or more will be at least 70% and up to 110% of MONEY FUND REPORT AVERAGE – All Taxable. *Div. Simple Yield APY on balances below \$10,000 is set at bank discretion. APY may vary. ©Copyright 2002 Union Planters Bank. Member FDIC.

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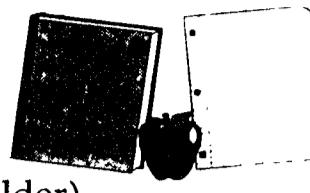


CITY COUNTY COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Dr. Gaynell Roberts, Executive Director

307 Coleman Ave., Suite E

Tel: (228) 467-3892 Waveland, MS 39576



Adult Education - Non-Credit Program-(Participants must be 18 years of age or older)

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

Hancock High School (HHS) 7084 Stennis Airport Dr, Kiln
Monday night classes - Begin February 4, 2002
Tuesday night classes - Begin February 5, 2002

Bay High School (BHS) 750 Blue Meadow Rd., Bay St. Louis
Thursday night classes - Begin February 7, 2002

Check individual course listings for time, location and length of session.
Mardi Gras Holidays - Classes will not meet the week of February 11-14.
Spring Break Holidays - 10 week classes will not meet April 1-4.
Make-up classes for all holidays are added at the end of the session.

REGISTRATION - at school site

HANCOCK HIGH SCHOOL (HHS) Administration Office 5:00-6:30 PM
January 28 & February 4

BAY HIGH SCHOOL (BHS) Administration Office 5:00-6:30 PM
January 31 & February 7

TELEPHONE REGISTRATION

Jan. 22 - Feb. 7 (Weekdays) 9:00 am - Noon and 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Telephone: (228) 467-3892 (Visa/Master Card Only)

Registration for courses offered at Hancock High and Bay High will be accepted at either location.

ENROLLMENT & REFUND POLICIES Tuition and lab fees for all classes must be paid at the time of registration. Many popular classes fill quickly. Therefore, registration at the earliest scheduled time is recommended. Enrollment is contingent upon payment of fees.

Courses failing to meet a minimum enrollment may be canceled. Persons who have made payment will receive a full refund for courses that are canceled. Please allow 4-6 weeks for refund check to be processed and mailed.

COMPUTER COURSES (CPT)

Computer Basics - Beginner CPT100-

HH02W: (Level 1) No experience needed.

Fear your computer no more. Begin by learning how to turn on your computer. What are programs, software, hardware? What are the mouse, clicking and double-clicking? Learn about desktops, files, windows, printers and more. Instructor: Janice Mowbray. HHS - Mondays in Room A1 11, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Computer Basics - Beginner CPT100-HH02W: (Level 1) No experience needed. (See description above) Instructor: Janice Mowbray. HHS - Mondays in Room A1 11, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Computer Keyboarding - CPT103-BH02W: (Level 1) No experience needed. Begin your computer training by developing keyboarding expertise. Build your technology skills in order to take advantage of the local workforce shortage. Instructor: Tula Carver. BHS - Thursdays in Room 27, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Windows 98/95 - Introduction CPT202-BH02W: (Level 2) Intro to Windows 98 and basic skills needed to manage applications and files efficiently in Windows 95 environment. Instructor: Yvette Richard. HHS - Mondays at Vo-Tech Center - Admin Bldg. Room 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.) (Text = \$10 paid to instructor.)

Windows 95 - introduction CPT202-BH02W: (Level 2) You will learn basic skills needed to manage applications and files. Instructor: Yvette Richard. BHS - Thursdays in Room 1, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.) (Text = \$10 paid to instructor.)

Windows 95 - Introduction CPT202-BH02W: (Level 2) (See previous description) Instructor: Yvette Richard. BHS - Thursdays in Room 1, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.) (Text = \$10 paid to instructor.)

Microsoft Word 97 - CPT303-HH02W: (Level 2) Instructor: Mal Mowbray will teach how to work with text, paragraphs, insert pictures, and use drawing tools to create documents using Microsoft Word. BHS - Thursdays in Room 27, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Microsoft Word 97 - CPT303-HH02W: (Level 3) Instructor: Yvette Richard will teach how to work with text, paragraphs, insert pictures, and use drawing tools to create documents. HHS - Mondays at Vo-Tech Center - Admin Bldg. Room 5, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.) (Text = \$10 paid to instructor.)

Internet Navigation - Intro. - CPT 309-HH02W: (Level 3) Learn how to find information and use Internet services (including E-mail). Instructor: Janice Mowbray. HHS - Tuesdays in Room A1 11, 6:00-8:00 p.m. for 3 weeks. (Class will meet Feb. 5, 19, & 26) Fee = \$35 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Computer Photography - CPT310-HH02W: (Level 3) (Basic computer experience required) You will receive an introduction to photography's digital capabilities focusing on computer photo manipulations, using Adobe Photo Shop on a P.C. Instructor: Richard Perkins. HHS - Tuesdays at Vo-Tech Center- Admin. Bldg., Room 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$35 (Supply fees for film/processing / prints.)

PowerPoint 97 - CPT307-HH02W: (Level 3) (Prior computer experience required) Learn the step-by-step process of creating a professional computer presentation, which is so important in today's technology education. HHS - Tuesdays at Vo-Tech Center Admin. Bldg., Room 5, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$55 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Excel 97 II CPT506-HH02W: (Advanced - 10 weeks) You will learn the essential skills in spreadsheet development. Course reaches how to create worksheets, ranges, charts, graphs, formulas, and combine worksheets. Develop advance computer competence & entry-level employability skills that are in demand in today's work force. HHS - Thursdays at Vo-Tech Center- Admin. Bldg., Room 5, 6:00-9:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$90 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Microsoft Word 97 II CPT503-HH02W (Advanced 10 weeks) Course designed to develop knowledge and skills for personal competence and successful entry level employment in today's workforce. HHS - Wednesdays at Vo-Tech Center - Admin. Bldg., Room 5, 6:00-9:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$90 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

VOCATIONAL - TECHNICAL

Computer Aided Drafting/Design CPT510-HH02W (10 weeks) Learn to produce Prototype Drawings using the computer in the AutoCAD environment. Instructor: Daryl Ladner - HHS - Tuesdays at Vo Tech Center - Technology Discovery Bldg., Room 602E, 6:00-9:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$90 (Lab fee = \$5 paid at registration.)

Building Trades I (Introduction) VOT101-HH02W No experience needed. Course designed to introduce the learner to the

Refunds, other than those issued for course cancellation, must be requested prior to the beginning of the second class meeting.

Weather/School Closing Alert: School closings due to inclement weather will be announced over local radio and television stations. If schools are closed, Community Education classes will not meet. The instructor will arrange make-up classes.

Attention: Smoking is prohibited on any school property!! Mississippi Law (House Bill 641) prohibits use of any tobacco product on any school property. School property means any public school building, bus, campus, grounds, recreational areas, or athletic fields. Please! Do not smoke on school property.

NEW Computer Guide

6-week classes - Level 1 & Level 2 courses require no previous computer experience, (very basic - beginning instruction) Level 3 & Level 4 courses require minimal computer experience.

3-week classes - Instruction is more concentrated, smaller number of students in class. Requires previous basic computer experience.

10-week classes - (Advanced) Prerequisite: Courses designed to advance computer competence & develop entry-level employability skills. Advanced instruction requires student to have previously acquired basic computer skills. Prerequisite: Student must have either:
A. previously completed 2 or more 6 week computer courses or
B. previous work-related basic computer experience

Students with computer experience may take the Quick, Self-check Computer Quiz, (at registration) to determine if they are prepared to advance to more difficult courses.

building trades (carpentry, masonry or plumbing). Shop tools and some supplies will be provided. The student will provide materials for individual projects. Instructor Charles R. Thomas will discuss individual projects on the first night of class. HHS - Tuesdays & Thursdays at Vo Tech Center - Bldg. Trades Shop, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$120

Metal Trades I (Introduction) VOT201-HH02W No experience needed. Course designed to teach fundamentals of Machine Shop, Sheet Metal, & Welding. Shop tools and some supplies will be provided. Student will provide materials for individual projects. Instructor Reggie Ladner will discuss individual projects first night of class. HHS - Tuesdays & Thursdays at Vo Tech Center - Metal Trades Shop, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$120

Welding I (Introduction) VOT301-HH02W No experience needed. Course is designed to teach fundamentals of Welding (Combination). Students supply some tools from a list provided by the instructor. Students also supply materials for individual projects. Instructor John Cranmer will discuss individual projects first night of class. HHS - Tuesdays & Thursdays at Vo Tech Center - Welding Shop, 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$120

Electricity, Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning (Introduction) VOT501 No experience needed. Course designed to teach fundamentals of Electricity, HVAC (Heating, Ventilation, & Air Conditioning). Course will also include refrigeration cycle and basic controls. Students will supply minimal basic tools.

Instructor Steve Ogle of Geiger Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning & Refrigeration. HHS - Tuesdays & Thursdays at Vo Tech Center, Agri-Science Dept., 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. for 10 weeks. Fee = \$120

Stained Glass - Introduction SPI117-HH02W: Learn the art of stained glass using "Lead came" or "copper foil" technique. Complete a project. Instructor: Well-known Artist Judi Marks. HHS - Mondays in Room C 104, 6:00-9:00 p.m. or 6 weeks. Fee = \$25 (Kit = \$60 glass/supplies for project purchased from instructor, first night of class) Supplies - safety glasses and paper towels.

Small Furniture Upholstery - (Intermediate) SPI115A-HH02W (Prerequisite: completed (beginner) furniture upholstery course or previous upholstery experience) Professional Upholsterer, Juanita Shiyou, teaches how to upholster medium-sized project (sofa, chair, or loveseat). Student must have access to sewing machine for homework. Bring project to be upholstered first night of class for instructor's approval. HHS - Mondays at Vo-Tech Center, Agri-Science Dept., 5:30-8:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$45 (purchase materials from instructor's list)

Portraiture - Intermediate - SPI150-BH02W (Prerequisite: Beginning Portraiture course or camera experience) Professional Photographer, Richard Perkins teaches the art of photographing people. The course will concentrate on lighting and posing. Class sessions include photo shoots to practice your skills. BHS - Thursdays in Room 12, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$35 (Supplies: camera & film)

Needlepoint - Beginners SPI128-BH02W: Begin a new hobby! Make a simple project by learning the introductory steps using plastic (larger openings) canvas. Instructor: Chris Adams. BHS - Thursdays in Room 4 (Library), 5:30-7:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25 (supplies to be purchased from instructor's list)

Stained Glass - Introduction SPI117-BH02W: Learn the art of stained glass using "Lead came" or "copper foil" technique. Complete a project. Instructor: Well-known Artist Judi Marks. HHS - Mondays in Room C 104, 6:00-9:00 p.m. or 6 weeks. Fee = \$25 (Kit = \$60 glass/supplies for project purchased from instructor, first night of class.) Supplies - safety glasses and paper towels.

Broadcasting (Radio) SPI118-BH02W: Introduction to radio media with class instruction/on-air broadcast. Local radio personality Bennett Hatchett, Instructor. BHS - Thursdays in Room 5, 5:30-8:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$35 (Supplies = \$15 EST.) (Classes for weeks 2-6 will meet at WBSL-station).

Yoga EDM103-BHH02W: Learn basic yoga terms, philosophy, posture, breathing, stretching & relaxation techniques. Bring an exercise mat. Instructor Nancy Stravinsky BHS - Thursdays in Room 4 (Library), 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25.

Yoga EDM103-HH02W: Learn basic yoga terms, philosophy, posture, breathing, stretching & relaxation techniques. Bring an exercise mat. Instructor Nancy Stravinsky HHS - Mondays in Room C109, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 4 weeks (Classes will meet Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, & 15). \$35 Tuition Fee provided **Free** to the public by Whitney Bank. Registration required. Class size limited.

FINANCIAL (FIN) \$

Your Path to Home Ownership FIN105-HH02W: (FREE) Study the aspects of home selection, financial planning for home buying, mortgage application process, and protecting your new home investment. Learn how much you can afford to pay and complete preliminary loan application for a new home. Instructor: Darlene Underwood, Hancock County Home Economist. HHS - Mondays in Room C109, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 4 weeks (Classes will meet Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, & 15). \$35 Tuition Fee provided **Free** to the public by Whitney Bank. Registration required. Class size limited.

EXERCISE/DANCE/MUSIC (EDM)

Yoga EDM103-BHH02W: Learn basic yoga terms, philosophy, posture, breathing, stretching & relaxation techniques. Bring an exercise mat. Instructor Nancy Stravinsky BHS - Thursdays in Room 4 (Library), 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25.

Yoga EDM103-HH02W: Learn basic yoga terms, philosophy, posture, breathing, stretching & relaxation techniques. Bring an exercise mat. Instructor Nancy Stravinsky HHS - Mondays in Room C109, 7:00-9:00 p.m. for 4 weeks (Classes will meet Sept. 24, Oct. 1, 8, & 15). \$35 Tuition Fee provided **Free** to the public by Whitney Bank. Registration required. Class size limited.

Introduction to Ballroom Dancing EDM120-BH02W: Learn Rumba, Swing, Waltz, Fox Trot, & Cha-Cha. No experience needed. Partner not required. Hard sole shoes recommended. Instructor: Rachel Johnson. BHS - Thursdays in Fine Arts (Stage) Bldg, 5:00-6:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25.

Introduction to Ballroom Dancing EDM120-BH02W: Learn Rumba, Swing, Waltz, Fox Trot, & Cha-Cha. No experience needed. Partner not required. Hard sole shoes recommended. Instructor: Rachel Johnson. BHS - Thursdays in Fine Arts (Stage) Bldg, 6:30-8:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25.

SPECIAL INTERESTS (SPI)

Cake Decorating - Basic SPI104-BH02W: Learn techniques of icing, flowers, leaves, and borders from instructor. Janice Mowbray. BHS - Thursdays in cafeteria, 6:00-8:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25. Basic decorating kit = \$11 (est.), purchased first night from instructor. Additional supplies purchased from instructor's list = \$15 (EST.)

Castnet Making SPI105-BH02W: Make your own net. Then have your instructor, Bill Jackson; teach you the fine art of throwing it over a "mess of mullets." BHS - Thursdays in Room 11, 6:00-8:30 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$35 (Supplies = \$20.)

Calligraphy SPI126-HH02W: Learn to use basic methods and strokes to design and make placards, envelopes and labels. Mal Mowbray, Instructor. HHS - Mondays in Room A 112, 7:00 - 9:00 for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25 (Supplies: materials purchased first night from instructor = \$5 EST.)

Calligraphy SPI126-BH02W: Learn to use basic methods and strokes to design and make placards, envelopes and labels. Mal Mowbray, Instructor. BHS - Thursdays in Room 28, 7:00 - 9:00 for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25 (Supplies: materials purchased first night from instructor = \$5 EST.)

Flower Arranging- (Beginner) SPI110-BH02W: Learn basic florist techniques using fresh/silk flowers. Take home a weekly work of art. Thursdays in Cafeteria, 5:00-7:00 p.m. for 6 weeks. Fee = \$25 (Supplies = weekly supplies purchased by student from instructor's list.)

POST-SECONDARY COURSES

(college credit courses offered within Hancock County)

Pearl River Community College Weekend Classes

Bay High School Jan. 11, 12, & 13, 2002

Jan. 25, 26 & 27, 2002

Final Exam: Feb. 1, 2002

Course offered

General Psychology (PSY 1513)

**Awesome dancers**

The Hancock High School Talons Dance Team, under the direction of Tangy Franklin, won first place Jan. 19 in the Senior Highkick Division II at the American All-Star Dance and Drill Team Competition in Jackson. The dance team will compete in the national finals at Universal Studios in Orlando, Fla., in February. Dancers include, front row from left, Amanda Altsman, Chayna Cosse, Keille Anthony, Dana Harris and Heather Moran; middle row, Bess Wilson, Alison Chauvin, Melinda Dittman, Belynn Sheffield and Elizabeth White; and back row, Jamie Thornhill, Krystal Kuhlmann, Brittany Peterson, Haley Lee, Bernita Washington and Courtney Peterson.

Lott

Continued from Page 4A

tisan agriculture bill before the Holiday recess. In my 29-years in Congress, I've never seen a partisan agriculture bill, yet this year's bill was riddled with partisanship.

This resulted in a failure to get an agriculture bill done. With planting on the horizon, the Senate needs to follow its tradition and act upon a bipartisan agriculture bill for America's farmers.

Personal and National Security:

Since September 11 Americans have become accustomed to thinking about national security in dual perspectives.

We have foreign security, and then we have homeland security. Both make up our national security, and both require bold new steps.

President Bush began

the Homeland Security initiative immediately after September 11 with the establishment of an Office of Homeland Security.

Congress continued the effort by requiring dramatic new practices at America's airports, public buildings and in other public areas.

I am pleased to say that the War on Terror abroad has been conducted in a nonpartisan way with the passage of a good defense bill, and I expect that will continue this year.

Obviously we must continue providing our men and women in uniform — military, police, firefighters and security personnel — with the support and tools they need to fight terror at home and abroad.

Immediately after September 11, Congress

proved that it could act in a bipartisan way joining the President and passing dramatic security measures along with the most historic education reform in 35 years and historic tax cuts for working Americans.

As we enter this legislative session, I am hopeful that the Senate in particular will realize its duty and again work to the benefit of all Americans.

Economic growth, energy policy, agriculture and national security are all issues which should ultimately transcend political concerns.

• Senator Lott welcomes any questions and/or comments about this column. Write to: U.S. Senator Trent Lott, 487 Russell Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. (Attention: Press Office)

Quotes

Continued from Page #

Tuesday, February 7, starting at 7:30 a.m. at the Bay-Waveland Pizza, Highway 90 at Waveland Avenue.

Beth Carriere, executive director of the Hancock County Tourism

Development Bureau, will be the guest speaker.

The event is co-sponsored by CenturyTel and Bay-Waveland Pizza.

I hope to see you at the Coffee Call.

District hires new managerBY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

Hancock County's Water and Sewer District this week announced a restructuring.

Director Eddie Renz said the district has hired John Lyons of Bay St. Louis to serve as Administrations Manager.

As such, Lyons will oversee the day-to-day operations of the office, Renz said. He also will coordinate duties with Don Renz, operations manager, who is in charge of the outside work force and the District's warehouse and inventory.

"Our new management structure, approved by the District, will enhance our ability to focus on our customers needs, as well as our business goals," said Lyons.

Renz said the new management system will free him up from the day-to-day operations of the District, and allow him more time to oversee on-going projects and planning other future goals.

Lyons, 40, is a native of Biloxi, and obtained a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration from the University of Tennessee in 1986.

Lyons was also a member of the UT-Martin basketball team that won its first Southeastern Conference Championship in 1983.

He previously worked for the Mississippi Department of Health, serving as a disease intervention specialist for six counties, including Hancock.

Before that, Lyons owned a company that sold fire extinguishers and safety equipment to businesses and apartment complexes.

Lyons and his wife, Donna Mitchell, live on Old Spanish Trail. They have two children, two-year-old Lindsay Marie and four-month-old Alison Claire.

has been filled without opposition. In 2001 Dr. Sherry Ponder became a member of the board when she was the only candidate who qualified for the race.

Another position on the school board also expires this month, one filled by Dr. Barbara Boston. Her position will be filled by a permanent appointment made by Bay St. Louis Mayor Eddie Favre. At press time, a name had not been announced for the appointment due to health reasons.

Koskan announced that she was leaving her post last November to devote her time to being a wife, mother and physician, she said.

A third candidate, registered nurse and daughter of former school board member Gary Yarborough, Lisa Yarborough Cooksey, dropped out of the race earlier this month.

Allen is originally from Pensacola. He and his family moved to Bay St. Louis in 1990, when his job took him to Stennis Space Center. In 1994 the family moved to Waveland. After retiring from the Navy in 1997, he sailed around the world, later writing and publishing a book, "Crew," about the experience.

Allen said he sought the school board position because he thought he could do a good job. One of his goals is to raise the accreditation in Bay St. Louis schools to equal those in Waveland schools, who rate a point higher in accreditation.

This is not the first time that a school board position

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Listing of the previously mentioned areas of practice do not indicate any certification or expertise therein

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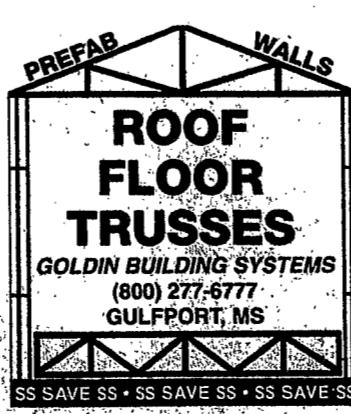
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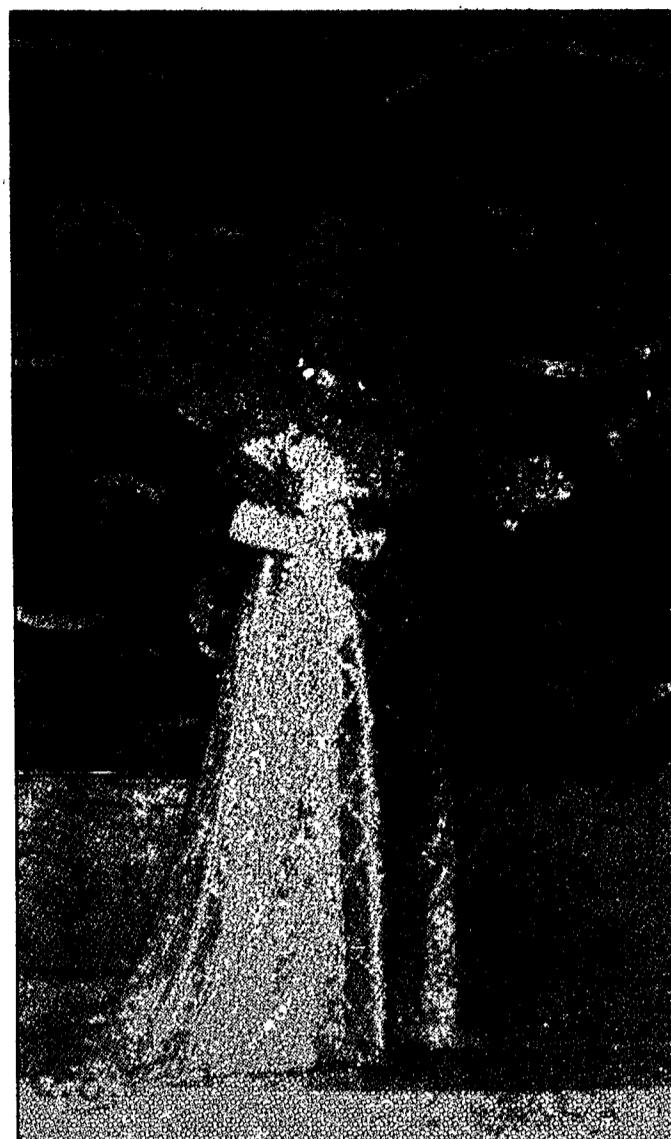
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ECHO



Queen of Iris



Melinda Richard of Bay St. Louis, past president of the Gather Ye Rosebuds society, reigns this year as the Queen of the Krewe of Iris in New Orleans. Iris celebrated its annual bal masque last month at the Ponchartrain Center in Kenner, and will follow the traditional Mardi Gras parade route in New Orleans beginning at noon on Saturday.

Bay Catholic celebrates Mardi Gras on Friday

Friday, Feb. 8, Bay Catholic Elementary School will be conducting its 22nd annual Mardi Gras parade.

Starting at 1 p.m. with a "Heroes and Heroines" theme, the classes will dress as family, community, biblical, and national heroes and heroines.

Reigning over this year's parade will be sixth grade King William Hadden and sixth grade Queen Chelsea Noah.

Kindergarten pages will be Sydney Labat, Joshua Conaway, Jennah Duncan, and Trey Asher.

Unlike many other school parades, the BCE Mardi Gras parade rolls down four public streets, led by a police escort, and stops at a viewing stand at City Hall, where Mayor Farve will greet the krewes and present awards to the BCE

Honor Guard.

The BCE Honor Guard includes students who have attended Bay Catholic since Kindergarten.

Honor Guards from Our Lady Academy and St. Stanislaus will also participate.

The parade will begin on Beach Boulevard, continue up Court Street, pass the reviewing stand in front of City Hall on Second Street where the parade will disband.

More than 400 children will march through the streets joined by bands, several parade marshals, community and religious leaders, and many Bay Catholic families.

Everyone is encouraged to line the streets of the parade route and join the fun.

For more information, contact Connie Heitzmann at 467-5158 or Amy Wood at

Campground owners against \$1 campsite/RV park surcharge

BY ED LEPOMA
Staff Writer

The Hancock County Board of Supervisors is expected to be greeted Monday by a hostile crowd opposed to plans to levy a \$1 nightly charge at campsites and RV parks.

The Echo was given a preview of what is to come Thursday when the Director of the Campground Owners Association of Hancock County provided copies of a scorching statement he planned to make before supervisors, along with copies he has already forwarded to the county's legislative delegation now in session in Jackson.

Association Director Jim Maness, who also owns Fairview Campground off South Beach Boulevard, said, "We are outraged."

Maness contends no campground his association represents was even consulted in advance of the proposed tax, and he feels the Board was misled by the Hancock County Tourism Development Bureau, which first proposed the tax, then won the Board's approval.

In December, the Board of Supervisors unanimously passed a resolution supporting the \$1 nightly surcharge and forwarded it to the state legislative delegation to amend the state statute governing state parks to allow the

county to levy and collect the tax.

Supervisors passed the resolution only after local Tourism Development Bureau Director Beth Carriere said state Sen. Scottie Cuevas assured her the state statute could be amended to also allow the \$1 tax if levied on campers using Buccaneer State Park and the county-run McLeod Water Park.

Stu Raburn, manager of Buccaneer State Park, is also among opponents of the tax, and said he will be at the Board meeting Monday to protest.

"We adamantly oppose this tax, and we'll do everything we can to fight it," said Raburn, whose park comes under jurisdiction of the state's Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks Department.

Because of the state's dwindling revenues and dire economic forecasts, Raburn said every state department is dealing with budget cuts, and if the Park had to rebate \$1 for each campsite to the Tourism Commission, it would further impact future operators and improvements at Buccaneer Park.

"Maybe we wouldn't be opposed to it if the money was to be put back into park improvements instead of into advertising," said Raburn.

When she gained the

gained approval of a resolution protesting the rate increases. The resolution will be sent on to Mediacom and the state Public Service Commission.

Supervisors also asked county attorney, Ronnie Artigues Jr., to look into the franchise agreement the county has with Mediacom.

David Kane, vice president of Mediacom, based in Gulf Breeze, Fla., said the rate increase to Hancock County subscribers will average around 10 percent.

Basic cable will go from \$11.02 to \$11.57; family basic, from \$36.95 to \$39.95; Rainbow cable from \$52.95 to \$57.95 and Rainbow Gold cable, from \$59.95 to \$64.95.

In addition, Kane said, "Any package including HBO will be adjusted an additional \$2 to offset the increase in HBO's programming fees."

Kane

said the family channel will also offer subscribers two new channels:

Missing
Continued from Page 1A

her daughter since Tuesday. She said that along with friends, she distributed posters with a photo of her daughter along the Coast all the way to Jackson County, in hopes of finding leads to her daughter's whereabouts.

Schroll said her daughter was located in the Lakeshore area through efforts of a family member on Friday evening.

Blaize-Watson was unavailable for comment on Saturday.

The matter is still under investigation.

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Board's endorsement, Carriere also blamed dwindling revenues as the reason she was requesting the surcharge.

Carriere said the two percent tax on hotels and motels in Hancock County, which is dedicated to the Tourism Bureau, hasn't brought in the expected revenue and is not growing. She said state and federal grants to promote tourism are also drying up.

Carriere estimated there are 746 campsites and RV sites in Hancock County, and even if the campsites maintain a year-round occupancy of only 50 percent, the surcharge would generate an extra \$136,145 a year for the Bureau.

Carriere promised supervisors some of the proceeds generated by the surcharge would be used to advertise area campgrounds and parks in regional and national publications.

In the statement he will make to the Board Monday, Maness said, "The consequences of this insidious tax are catastrophic."

He said no campground is set up to handle the accounting load the tax would impose. "Bookkeeping costs alone would add several thousand dollars to our overhead," said Maness.

He also said the tax would place campgrounds in

Hancock County at a competitive disadvantage to other counties and state parks which do not have the surcharge.

"The precedent this tax set would create a nightmare for every other campground in the state," said Maness.

Besides his own Fairview Campgrounds, Maness said the Association represents nine others: They are listed as Bay Marina & RV Park; Evergreen Acres; Fun town Campground; Hancock RV Park; KOA of Bay St. Louis; Oakleaf RV Park; Ponderosa RV Park; Poor John's RV Park; Sam's Place RV Park; and Shady Acres.



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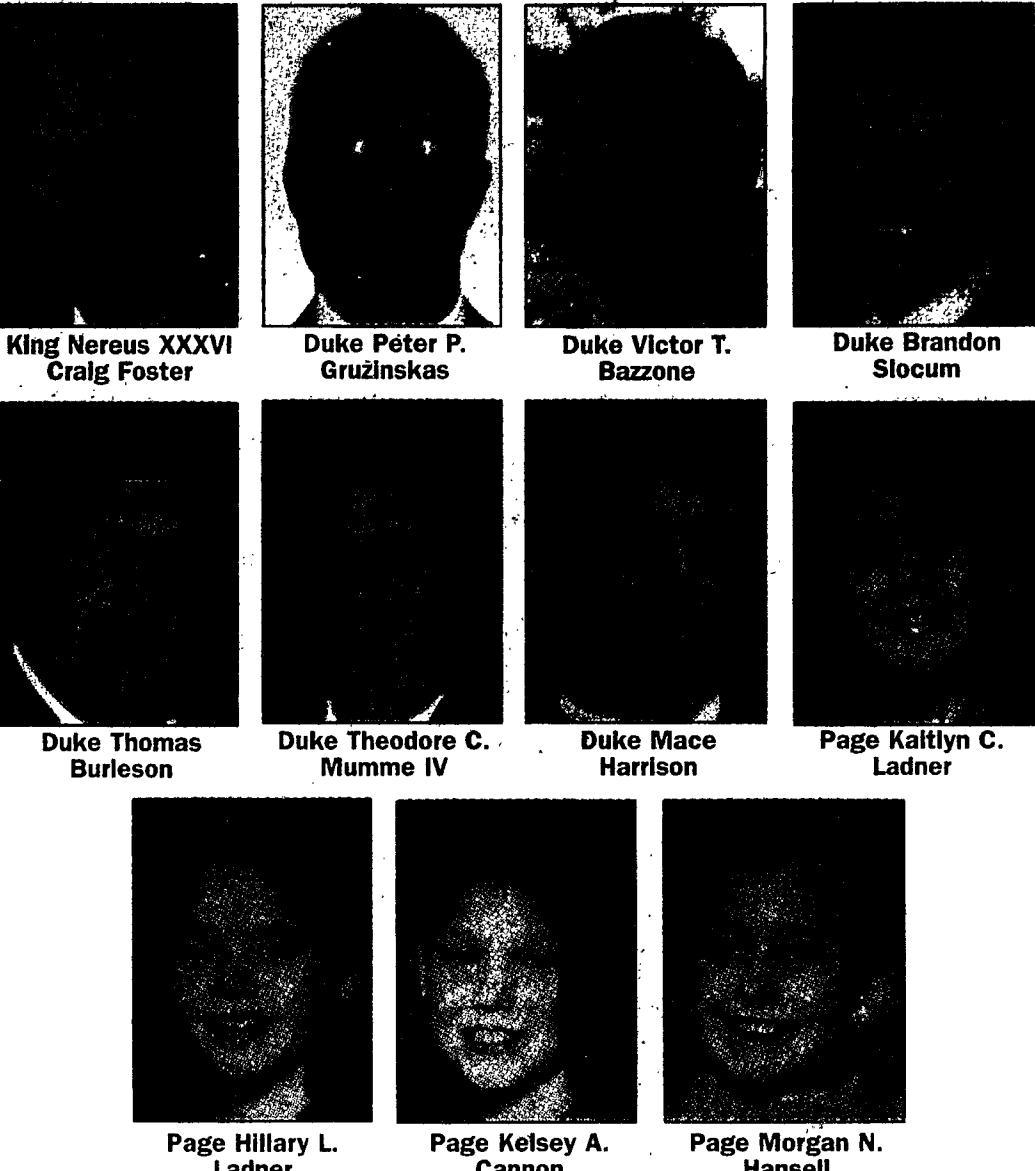
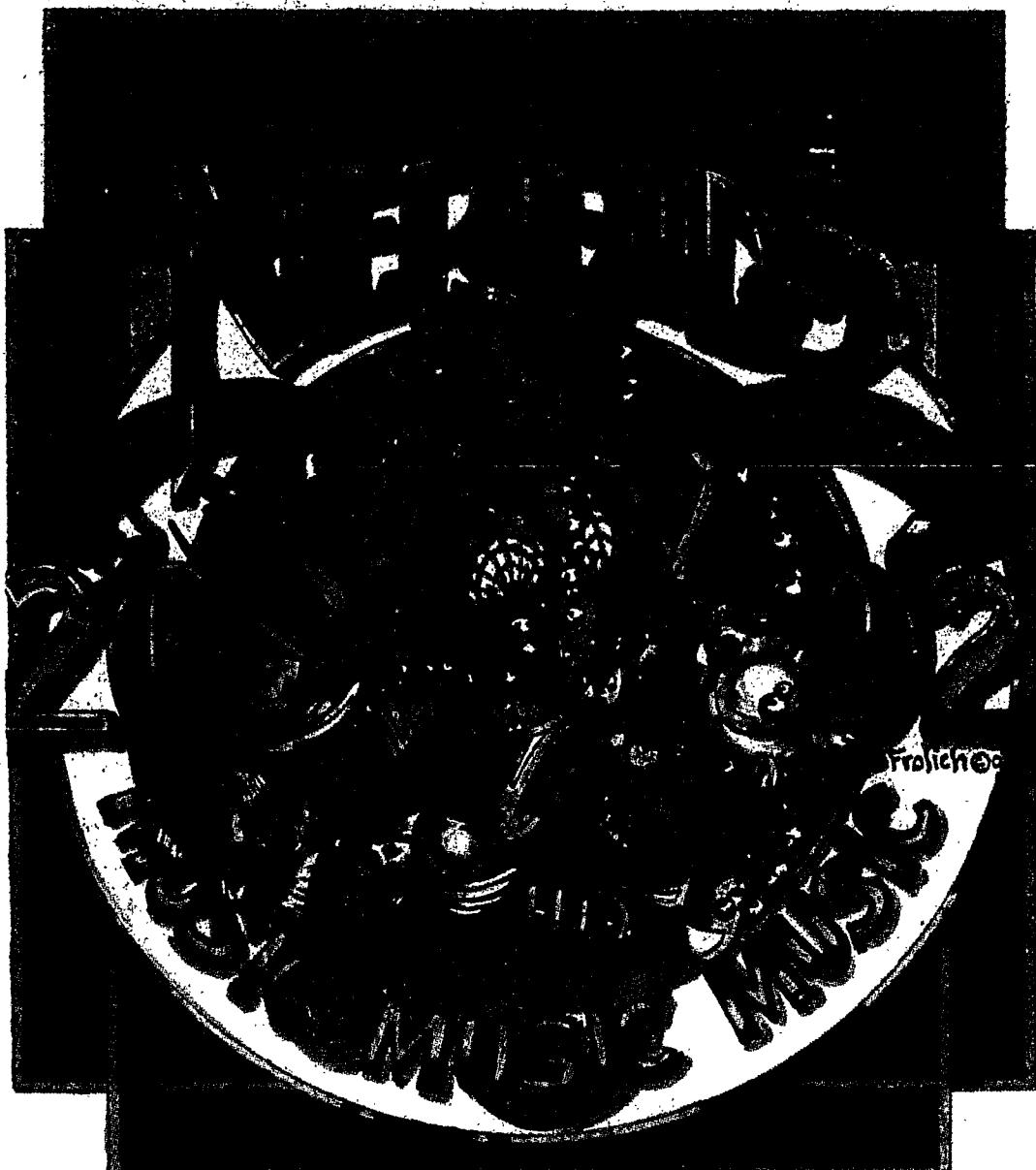
Stop by the Magic Money Players Club Sunday, February 3, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. to pick up your free entry for Super Bowl Boards. Drawing is in the main lobby stage area at 4 p.m. See Players Club for official rules.

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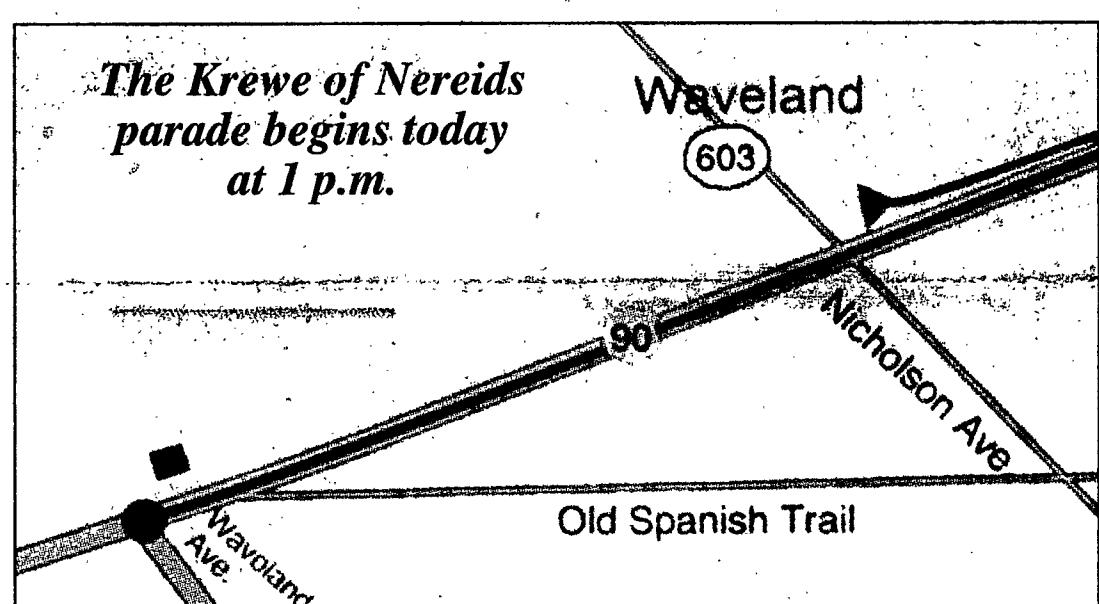
COMMUNITY

pg 1B



Nereids rolls today!

*The Krewe of Nereids
parade begins today
at 1 p.m.*



As the Krewe of Nereids parade rolls today at 1 p.m., Queen Doris XXXVI will share her reign over the royal court with King Nereus XXXVI, Craig Foster.

Foster has been a resident of Bay St. Louis since 1987.

He is an investment representative, limited partner and serves as regional leader for Edward Jones Investment.

Foster was named "Broker of the Year" for his firm for the state of

Mississippi in 1999.

He has served as president of the Bay-Waveland Rotary Club and as a board member of the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce.

He is also a past member of the Exchange Club.

Formerly of Natchitoches, Foster was vice-president of Peoples Bank & Trust Co. and also served as president of the Natchitoches Jaycees, president of the Natchitoches Ducks Unlimited Chapter and

president of the Northwest Louisiana Bank Administration Institute.

He is married to Janet Mayeaux Foster, and they have two children, Karyn and Kile.

Karyn is married to Duncan F. Matheson and is a registered nurse currently living in Toronto, Canada.

Kile is a student at University of Southern Mississippi/Gulf Coast.

Foster's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Orin Foster of Natchitoches.

Local Mardi Gras action heats up as Fat Tuesday nears



Top row from left, Chuck Munn, Joe Casano, Vicki Haskins, Sue Munn, Karen Walker and Belinda Duke; bottom row, Christie Lewis, Bill Walker, Brandon Edenfield, Marty Duke, King Bob Lewis, Queen Merle Norfolk, Dalton Lewis and Laura Wilson.

Krewe of Selene celebrates royalty

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

The Krewe of Selene ball was Jan. 12 in the Entertainment Complex of Casino Magic Bay St. Louis. The king, Edymius V, was Bob Lewis. He is a financial consultant and broker. His wife, Jan, has been a member of Selene for five years.

The queen was Merle Norfolk who has been a member of Selene for two years. Theme of the ball was "Selene Goes to Hollywood."

Maids and dukes represented "My Fair Lady," "Cleopatra," "Gone with the Wind," and "Viva Las Vegas." She was awarded the First Moon Goddess Award

Chuck.

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She was awarded the First Moon Goddess Award

Karen Walker, Belinda Duke and Vicki Haskins.

Dukes included Chuck Munn, Bill Walker, Marty Duke and Joe Casano.

Pages to the queen were Laura Wilson and Brandon Edenfield.

Pages to the king were his grandchildren Dalton and Christie Lewis.

Founder/captain of the Krewe of Selene is Terri Downie.

Maids were Sue Munn,

Krewe of Real People

Ball/parade information

The Krewe of Real People will be celebrating its 21st carnival season with a Coronation Ball Saturday, Feb. 9 at the Hancock County Civic Center on Longfellow Drive.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 at the

Tickets may be purchased from any krewe member or by calling Wesley Labat at 467-4768.

The krewe will also roll on the streets of Bay St. Louis on Fat Tuesday, Feb. 12 at

1 p.m.

Entries may be floats, marching groups, dancers, maskers or bands.

There is no entry fee, and the krewe invites individuals, families, groups and organizations to participate.

For more information, call Kimberly Bradley at 466-4878 or Patricia Tice at (228) 467-9543.

Krewe of SCOWI carnival ball

The Krewe of SCOWI celebrated its 22nd carnival ball.

Reigning over the festivities were Queen Lilly Burke and King Anthony Tony Catalano.

Mrs. Burke, of Waveland, formerly of North Carolina, is the mother of three children, Patty Burke Browning, Michael Burke and Barry

Reigning over the festivities were Queen Lilly Burke and King Anthony Tony Catalano.

She was associated with Mollere Realty for 35 years. She is grandmother to four boys and a granddaughter.

Tony Catalano, of Waveland, formerly of

Chalmette, is the owner of Catalano Trucking Company since 1949.

He is married to Barbara "Precious" Catalano.

Mrs. Catalano is a past queen of SCOWI.

What's for Lunch?

Bay St. Louis-Waveland School District Chef Salad, Milk and Condiments served daily BREAKFAST

Monday: Pancake and Sausage Stick, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Tuesday: Sausage and Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Wednesday: Grits and Hashbrowns, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Thursday: Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Cereal, Toast, Fruit Juice

Friday: Cinnamon-Raisin Biscuit, Cereal, Toast, Juice

LUNCH

Monday: Stromboli, BBQ Pork on Bun, Black-eyed Peas, Buttered Corn, Frozen Fruit Juice Bar, Fresh Fruit Bowl,

Tuesday: Southern Fried Chicken, Bean Burrito, Broccoli and Rice Casserole, Buttered Carrots, Chilled Peach Slices, Fresh Fruit Bowl, Yeast Roll

Wednesday: Chicken Pot Pie, Hamburger with Trimmings, Turnip Greens, Cajun Fries, Fruit Cocktail, Pineapple Tidbits, Yeast Roll, Jell-O with Whipped Topping

Thursday: Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Chili Dog, Buttered Corn, Garden Salad with Dressing, Mandarin Fruit Cup, Fresh Orange Smiles, Chocolate

Pudding, Crackers, Yeast Roll

Friday: Chicken Nuggets, Tuna Salad, Creamed Potatoes with Gravy, Green Peas, Frozen Fruit Juice Bar, Fresh Fruit Bowl, Chocolate Chip Cookie, Yeast Roll

Hancock North Central Gulfview

Charles B. Murphy and East Hancock Elementary Schools Bread, dessert, milk, etc. BREAKFAST

Monday: Cereal with Toast or Chicken Pattie Biscuit, Juice

Tuesday: Cereal with Toast or Pancake Pup, Juice

Wednesday: Cereal with Toast or Grilled Cheese Sandwich, Juice

Thursday: Cereal with Toast or Sausage Biscuit, Juice

Friday: Cereal with Toast or Breakfast Pizza, Juice

LUNCH

Monday: Chicken Spaghetti, Foot-long Hot Dog, French Fries, Calif. Vegetables, Tossed Salad, Pears, Juice, Yeast Rolls, Chocolate Pudding

Tuesday: Southern Fried Chicken, Cheeseburger, Cheesy Potatoes, Baked Beans, Coleslaw, Peaches, Fruit Juice, Yeast Rolls, Crackers, King Cake

Wednesday: Turkey and Ham and Cheese Poboy, Oven Fries, Raw Vegetables

Thursday: Beef-A-Roni, Ham and Cheese Poboy, Tossed Salad, Sliced Apples, Fruit Juice, Yeast Rolls, Fruit Crisp

Feb. 4-8

with Dip, Tossed Salad, Applesauce, Fruit Juice, Cornbread, Crackers, Ice Cream

Friday: Chicken Spaghetti, Taco Salad, Roast Beef Poboy, Creamed Potatoes, Steamed Carrots, Tossed Salad, Sliced Apples, Fruit Juice, Yeast Rolls, Fruit Crisp

Bay Catholic BREAKFAST

Monday: Waffle with Syrup, Juice, Milk

Tuesday: Breakfast Bagel, Juice, Milk

Wednesday: Pancake, Sausage on Stick, Juice, Milk

Thursday: Breakfast Pizza, Juice, Milk

Friday: French Toast Sticks, Juice Milk

LUNCH

Milk or Juice served with every meal

Monday: Cheesy Chicken with Rice or Chef's Salad, Mixed Veggies or Peas, Strawberries or Mandarin Oranges

Tuesday: Ham and Cheese Poboy or Chef's Salad, Tater Tots or Tossed Salad, Pineapple Tidbits or Peaches

Wednesday: Red Beans and Rice or Chef's Salad, Coleslaw or Carrots, Pears or Fruit Cocktail, Roll

Thursday: Red Beans and Rice or Chef's Salad, Coleslaw or Carrots, Pears or Fruit Cocktail, Roll

Friday: Peanut Butter and Jelly Sandwich or Chef's Salad, Carrot or Celery Sticks, Banana or Apple

Egyptology



In mid-December, fourth and fifth grade students in Joan Brezeale's gifted class at East Hancock Elementary created "The People and Discoveries of Ancient Egypt Museum." This hand-made museum displayed Egyptian artifacts uncovered during a classroom archeological dig with research information accompanying each artifact. Housed in the museum were student-created models of the Sphinx, the Great Pyramid of Giza, a sarcophagus and mummy, the Nile River, and an Egyptian house. The fifth grade students dressed as wax figures of the ancient Egyptian gods that came to life to tell about themselves while students, teachers, and visitors toured the museum. Those speaking included Queen Nefertiti, Cleopatra, an Egyptian scribe, and King Tutankhamun. Other students, dressed in period costume, recited information about Egyptian jewelry, weapons of war, clothing, recreation, artifacts, residential dwellings, agriculture, and hieroglyphics.

BUSINESS review

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Our community is constantly growing which means that potential customers are moving into the market area all the time. Advertising gives these newcomers a reason to visit your store.

Most businesses budget for their advertising expenses just as they do for other necessities such as rent, phones, etc. Smart business people realize that advertising is imperative to keep their business growing.

Another reason to advertise is that advertising is news! You profit by telling our readers what is new in your store. Through advertising, you can let a wide audience know the product lines you carry, the quality of your merchandise, the completeness of your service and the character of your store.

If you have something to sell, then you have something to advertise. When you have nothing to advertise, you are out of business. Advertising is designed to build your business and works best when it is repeated regularly. Consistent advertising pays off!

Now that you know some of the reasons to advertise, you're probably wondering how you can advertise most effectively. Surveys show that ads in local newspapers have more impact than in any other medium. The Sea Coast Echo goes into the majority of the homes in Hancock County. The Sea Coast Echo is full of interesting reading, it is a part of our community. People like to read about people and The Sea Coast Echo is full of pictures and stories about local people. The most important reason to advertise in The Sea Coast Echo is that our readers are your customers.

If you're looking for the best advertising value for your money, then you should contact the advertising department at The Sea Coast Echo. One of our advertising representatives will be happy to discuss the many advertising options offered by The Sea Coast Echo. For more information you may call 467-5474, Monday through Friday 8am to 5pm, or stop by our office at 124 Court Street, Bay St. Louis.

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Eh

Sharon I Louis and of Edg announce t their daug Ehrlich of Damon An Bay St. Lou of Mary Charles Richmond

The bri graduate Academ andate of the Notre Dame bioloy. She U. S. Pe Thailand and zoo keeper Wild Anim Her gran

St. I

SPECIAL

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The par for Saturd p.m.

All entr an applic

Applic received b Civic Ass March 5 de

There w and third awarded in Categor floats, busi floats, ban groups.

In addit be judged

Weddings and Engagements



Kaaren Kolodziej and Michael Burke

Kolodziej-Burke

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Kolodziej of Diamondhead announce the engagement of their daughter, Kaaren R. Kolodziej, to Michael P. Burke of San Diego, Calif., son of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald C. Burke of Sage, Calif., and formerly of Randolph, N.J.

The bride-elect is a 1990 graduate of Our Lady Academy and a 1994 graduate of the University of Notre Dame with a BS in biology. She served with the U.S. Peace Corps in Thailand and is presently a zoo keeper at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

Her grandparents are the

late Mr. and Mrs. Arnold P. Schmidt and the late Mr. and Mrs. John C. Kolodziej.

The future groom is a 1992 graduate of Gill St. Bernard's School, Gladstone, N.J., and a 2001 graduate of San Diego State University with a BA in anthropology. He is an animal trainer at the San Diego Wild Animal Park.

His grandparents are William Hausman and the late Gladys Hausman and the late Alice LaRochelle.

Vows will be exchanged March 9, 2002, at Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church in Bay St. Louis.

Fleming-Wilson

Philip Fleming and Sister Mary Magdalene of Slidell announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Kimberly Michelle Fleming, to Joshua Alan Wilson, son of Virginia Wilson of Slidell.

The bride-elect is a graduate of Salmen High School in Slidell and is employed with North American

Mortgage Co.

The prospective groom is a Bay High School graduate and is employed with Slidell Easy Pay.

The wedding will take place Feb. 16, 2002 at 2 p.m. in Our Lady of the Gulf Catholic Church. The reception will follow in the Parish Hall. The couple will reside in Louisiana.



Kimberly Fleming and Joshua Wilson



Kristine King and Don Kinsey

Ehrlich-Stafford

Sharon Ehrlich of Bay St. Louis and Dwayne Ehrlich of Edgewater, Fla., announce the engagement of their daughter, Tammy Lou Ehrlich of Bay St. Louis, to Damon Andrew Stafford of Bay St. Louis. He is the son of Mary Stafford and Charles Stafford of Richmond Hill, Ga.

The bride-elect is a 1990 graduate of Bay High School and a 1994 and 2000 graduate of the University of

Southern Mississippi. She is employed with the Hancock County School District.

Her grandmother is Louella Hebert of Bay St. Louis.

The prospective groom is a 1987 graduate of Richmond Hill High School. He is employed with Dub Herring Chrysler in Picayune.

Vows will be exchanged April 13 at Bayou Talla Baptist Church in Kiln.

King-Kinsey

The children of Kristine King, Jennifer, Julie, Josephine and Joseph David, of Bay St. Louis, announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their mother, to Don H. Kinsey of Bay St. Louis, father of Byron, Dena and Wendy Kinsey.

The prospective groom is employed with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department.

The wedding will take place Feb. 8, 2002 at 6 p.m. at Bayou Phillips Community Center, with reception following at the center.

AARP volunteers offer tax advice

AARP volunteer counselors will staff tax counseling sites shown below during February through mid-April. The sites are located at public libraries unless otherwise noted.

Bay St. Louis, Tuesdays and Saturdays, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Kilm, Mondays and Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. and Thursdays 9 p.m.-1 p.m.

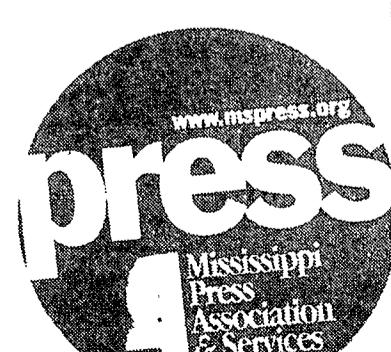
Pass Christian, Tuesdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

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St. Patrick's Parade

SPECIAL TO THE ECHO

Application forms are now available for anyone who would like to participate in the Waveland Civic Association's 38th annual St. Patrick's parade.

The parade is scheduled for Saturday, March 9 at 2 p.m.

All entrants must fill out an application.

Applications must be received by the Waveland Civic Association by the March 5 deadline.

There will be first, second and third place trophies awarded in all categories.

Categories include family floats, business/organization floats, bands and marching groups.

In addition, all floats will be judged and awarded tro-

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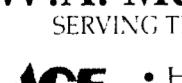
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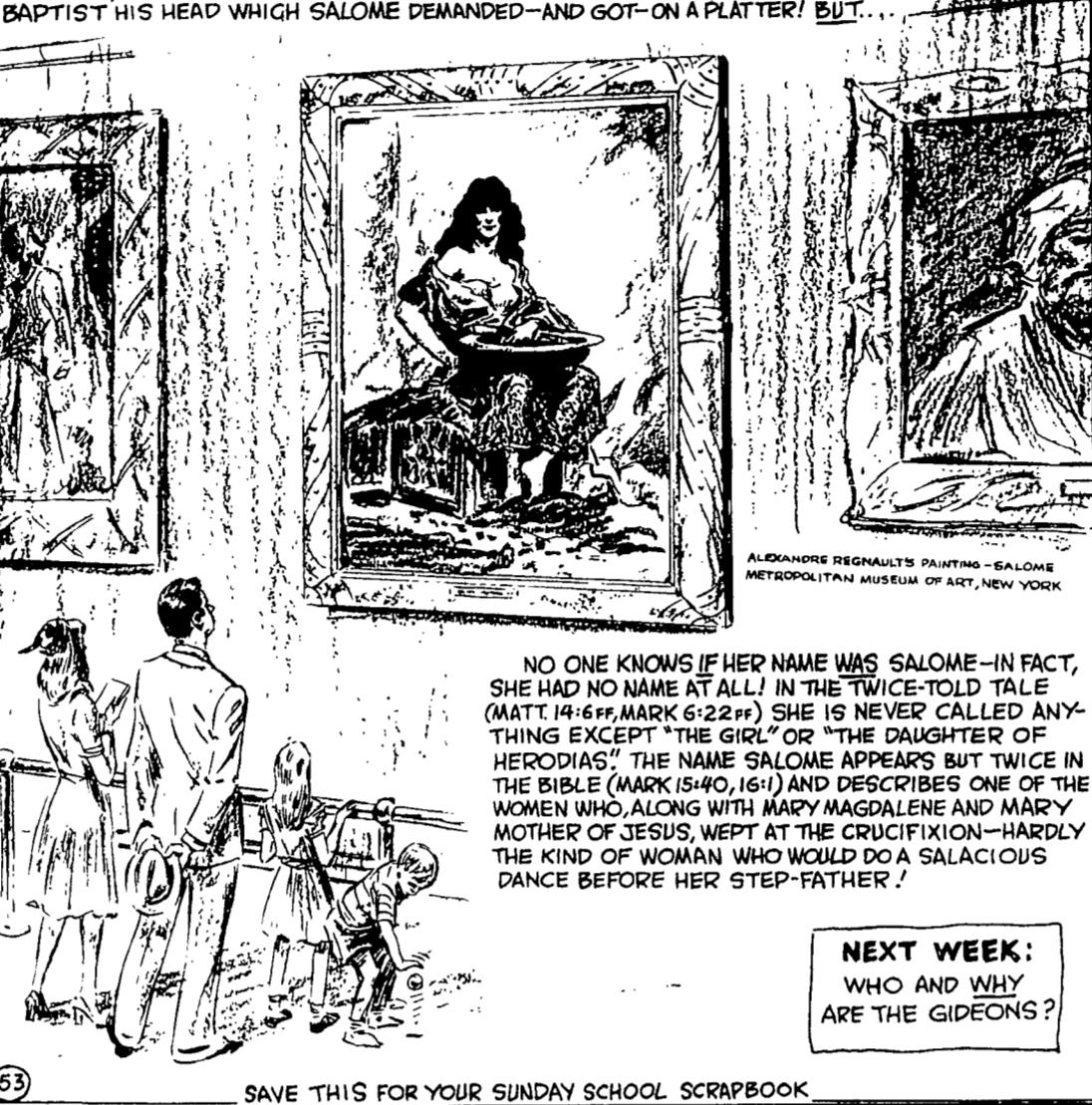


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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

SALOME: ONE OF THE BIBLE'S DRAMATIC CHARACTERS HAS INSPIRED STORIES, PLAYS, BOOKS, OPERAS, AND MORE THAN ONE MOVIE! NUMBERS OF ARTISTS HAVE PAINTED THIS SEDUCTIVE, DESTRUCTIVE YOUNG WOMAN WHOSE DANCE SO ENRAPTURED KING HEROD THAT HE VOWED, "ASK OF ME WHATSOEVER THOU WILT, AND I WILL GIVE IT THEE." THAT RASH PROMISE COST JOHN THE BAPTIST HIS HEAD WHICH SALOME DEMANDED—AND GOT—ON A PLATTER! BUT...

NO ONE KNOWS IF HER NAME WAS SALOME—IN FACT, SHE HAD NO NAME AT ALL! IN THE TWICE-TOLD TALE (MATT. 14:6-FF, MARK 6:22-FF) SHE IS NEVER CALLED ANYTHING EXCEPT "THE GIRL" OR "THE DAUGHTER OF HERODIAS." THE NAME SALOME APPEARS BUT TWICE IN THE BIBLE (MARK 15:40, 16:1) AND DESCRIBES ONE OF THE WOMEN WHO, ALONG WITH MARY MAGDALENE AND MARY, MOTHER OF JESUS, WEPT AT THE CRUCIFIXION—HARDLY THE KIND OF WOMAN WHO WOULD DO A SALACIOUS DANCE BEFORE HER STEP-FATHER!

NEXT WEEK:
WHO AND WHY
ARE THE GIDEONS?

SAVE THIS FOR YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRAPBOOK

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Faith Assembly of God

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First Assembly of God

1912 Arnold St. • Waveland

467-7767

BAPTIST

Bayou Talla Fellowship

18555 Hwy 43 • Kiln • 255-1118

Bayside Baptist

7517 Hancock Dr. • Bayside Park

467-0500

Calvary Independent Baptist

Longtoll Dr. • Waveland

467-2186

Central Baptist

1202 Hwy 90 • Bay St. Louis

467-0529

Diamondhead Baptist

Diamondhead Dr. N. • Diamondhead

255-3348

Fenton Community Church

Corner of Edwina Ladner & Kiln Delisle Rd. • 255-3255

First Baptist

141 Main St. • Bay St. Louis

467-4005

First Baptist of Delisle

25305 Cuevas de Delisle Rd.

Pass Christian • 255-6350

First Baptist

Jeff Davis & St. Joseph

Waveland • 467-7067

First Baptist Church

Franklin & Hancock St.

Pearlinton • 533-6030

First Missionary Baptist

Sycamore St. • Bay St. Louis

467-3193

First Southern Baptist

Pearlinton • 533-7313

Kittiwake Baptist Church

1410 East 2nd St. • Pass Christian

452-4198

Lakeshore Baptist

Lakeshore Rd. • Lakeshore

Little Zion Baptist

510 Central Ave. • Waveland

467-6497

Sacred Heart Catholic

14595 Vidalia Rd. • Pass Christian

255-7453 or 255-7560

St. Ann Catholic

Clermont Harbor • Bay St. Louis

467-4746

St. John Catholic

Lakeshore • 467-4746

St. Rose de Lima

301 S. Necaise • Bay St. Louis

467-7347

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REFLECTIONS ON LIFE

By Father Jerome
LeDoux, SVD



We have enough to fear from native terrorists

As I buckled my seatbelt, I spotted an object down on the floor of the passenger side of my car. It was the movable part of the cigarette lighter. When I attempted to push it back in, a sad sight greeted my eyes. The middle part of my dashboard had been ripped out, leaving loose wires galore.

There was that awful, violated feeling again, and another bite taken out of security. My 1984 Celebrity was stolen in 1990 with 206,000 miles on it. A few years later, another Celebrity was broken into, but the thief gave up after breaking the steering column and being either spooked or unsuccessful.

The sole object of the recent break-in, the radio was gone. After 17 years of service, the original radio of the 1984 Oldsmobile Delta 88 left much to be desired. A great bargain had inspired me to get a new one which could play both cassette tapes and compact discs.

Laziness was my undoing. The radio had a release button by which one could remove the face and secure it during the night or whenever necessary. This maneuver I did for some days, but then found it too inconvenient to pursue. The amazing thing is that I got away with it for some months.

"The price of security/freedom is eternal vigilance." Evidently, I forgot the accuracy and importance of that truism. I mistakenly thought I had learned from 911 that we can never afford to let our guard down at any time. My laziness left that very tempting thief-bait set into the dashboard.

But how did the thief get in? All my locks were down and, thank God, none of the windows was broken. A later outside inspection revealed that a tool had been used to break the lock on the passenger side.

"A stitch in time saves nine," and "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." It's too bad these adages are so expensive to remember.

Well, perhaps "The Club" prevented the thief from stealing the car. At least I have been always faithful in securing this deterrent to lazy thieves.

My painful disappointment, especially in my complacent laziness, moved me to scan the urban horizon for a better look at everything that was going down. The more I thought, the more I realized that 911 was a shocker mostly in that it was inflicted by foreigners and took almost 3000 lives at one time.

We ignore or simply refuse to be aware of the day-to-day shocker which is with us 365-24-7; yes, every

moment of every day.

Although their evil intent is at a somewhat lower level, they deserve the name terrorists. Let's just call them our native urban terrorists. Their negative impact exceeds that of 911.

Consider the things they do such as breaking into cars, into houses, into places of business, and into churches where the poor box is a favorite target.

While there is the danger of random encounters here, this type of activity is usually clandestine, undetected and removed from the owners.

Beyond this, the terrorists become personal, dangerous and deadly. Over the years, I have been the object of one mugging, but I have repaid in kind by breaking up three muggings and foiling one van break-in.

Naturally, these confrontations are fraught with all kinds of perils.

Our native urban terrorists make so bold as to hang around our schools to push drugs and pester the students. Only armed security and alert preventive measures have reduced this urban terror to a minimum in most places.

"Money talks, bull walks," is the creed of drug dealers who do a dance of death every day of their lives. We all know that no one gets away with cheating on drug quality or not delivering the drug dealers their money.

The result is a yearlong, steady tattoo of drug-related murders which outstrip the final toll of 911 every few months. In fact, the total number of murders in the U.S., most of which are drug-related, annually flirts with the 15,517 level. We are afflicting ourselves worse than the terrorists did.

Who is to say the global terrorists are not savvy enough to have inserted themselves into the U.S. drug market, so as to bring death into every neighborhood and community of our country? Why not, since we do know that drug sales are helping to finance their international terrorist activities?

We have not even mentioned that long-established branch of native urban terrorists which we call organized crime.

Together with the two-bit and high-powered drug dealers, we have a terrible citizen gauntlet to run. Suffice it to reflect that black gangs ran the Mafia out of Gary Indiana 20 years ago.

While that is laughable and tragic at the same time, we need to train the same energies, resources, resolve and fast vigilance on our urban terrorists that we are expending on the al-Qaida and other international terrorists.

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St. Clare Honor Roll, second nine weeks

2nd Nine Weeks STRAIGHT A'S

1st Grade - Mary Michael Collins, Gavin Gros, Emily Gruzinskas, Nicole Johnston, Claudia Kapusinski, Nathan Kramber, Hunter Murray, Bret Reinhart, Wyatt Scott, Bingham Wikoff

2nd Grade - Kolleen Aicklen, Caroline Collins, Nicholas Denette, Branden Edenfield, Kelly McKeough, Thomas Murphree

3rd Grade - Michelle DeFraites, Johnny Kelly, Toni Lotz

4th Grade - Brianna Wilson, Briot Bourgeois, Kaitlin Collins, Amanda Ginn

5th Grade - Sabrina Bradford, Cady Reinhart, John Smuck, Rachel Courtault

ALPHA

1st Grade - Laura Bensabat, Bryce Dubuisson, Rachel Forestier, Morgan Fiorello, Robert Courtiade, Madison Hansell, Justin Hoda, Michael James, Ben Kapp, Kathryn Kidd, Corey Stinson

2nd Grade - Nicholas Bensabat, Brieanne Bourgeois, Shelby Matranga, Brett Disher, Jennifer Ginn, Cali Longo, Brady Smith, Holly Peterson, Courtney Seitz, Joshua Williams, Ashton Aime

3rd Grade - Brandon Bunol,

Natalie Daspit, Newman Forestier, Kaylyn Hall, Magan McClellan, Nadia Moise, Brandon Odom, Sheila Kapp, Kendall McDonald, Kyle McKeough, Hannah Wikoff

4th Grade - Brittany Kramber, Nikki Wild

5th Grade - Solomon Twiggs, Chelsea Copeland, Samantha Bradford

6th Grade - Sharon Leslie, Shelby Wild, Brittany Piazza, Corey Daspit, Maggie Worrel, Bri Johnston, Shelly Reboul

BETA

1st Grade - Alexis Fillingame, Joshua Kergosien, Hunter Adam

2nd Grade - Taylor Bourgeois, Kaycie Cucurullo, Jacob Fleuriel, Taylor Necaise, Taylor Turcotte

3rd Grade - Candice Pizzolato, Nicholas Baudean, Stephanie Burke, Billy Cotter, Dakota Gugino

4th Grade - Kristin Gardner, Brennan Steffel, Logan Schaefer, Lauren Quakenbush, Annabelle Kelly

5th Grade - Jennifer Liverett, Morgan Hansell, Jordan Hubbard, Jesse Mitchell, Matthew Natal, Whitney Copeland

Grade - Gabrielle Gros, Lisa Adam, Stephanie Williamson, Myriam Mitchell, Megan Bermond

###

The "Word" for the Week

Valentines

Dennis J. Prutow • Box 303, Sterling, KS 67579

Which struck you? A love bug or a lightning bug?

Valentines are supposed to relate our love. Do they? One of the tragedies of our time is our lack of loyalty to and in marriage.

Television and film portray men and women jumping into bed with almost anyone. There are no qualms of conscience. The satisfaction of physical cravings is preeminent. We call it love.

Look at what the Bible says, "It is better to marry than to burn with passion" (1 Corinthians 7:9).

The God who made us knows our need for affection. He equipped us to express our passions with the opposite sex. Passion is not bad. It is good.

The One who made us requires the expression of physical passion within the confines of marriage. I'm talking about lifetime monogamous relationships in which vows are exchanged and promises are made.

To hear more on the same topic, call toll free for the "mini-message of the week," 1-800-777-0389 or visit www.sterlingpulpit.org.

Afterward, the marriage is physically consummated.

Love can be expression on two levels. The first level involves chemistry and feelings. We are struck by lightning. The electricity flows.

The second and more basic level involves commitment displayed in deeds of kindness. We make the bed and make money. We sleep together and work together. We get pregnant and raise truth-loving, hard-working, responsible children.

Of course we must be truth-telling, hard-working and responsible too. That's love.

Can we tell the difference between the love bug and the lightning bug?

Feb. 3: Feast of St. Blaize

Feb. 2-3: Blessing of Throats and Prayer for Good Health during the new year at all masses.

Feb. 6: Pre-baptism class at 7 p.m. in the school building

Feb. 13: Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent and a day of fast and abstinence

8:30 a.m. Mass, St. Ann

7 p.m. Mass, St. John

Distribution of ashes at the masses.

Each Wednesday during Lent, Mass and Stations of the Cross, 6:30 p.m.

Feb. 17: Children's Mass

Feb. 3: Feast of St. Blaize

Feb. 2-3: Blessing of Throats and Prayer for Good Health during the new year at all masses.

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Krewe of Peter Claver Mardi Gras Ball

The Knights of Peter Claver and Ladies Auxiliary, Council & Court #6, held their sixth Annual Mardi Gras Ball Jan. 19 at the West Harrison Civic Center in Pass Christian.

The 2002 theme, "Las Vegas Knights," transformed the facility into a casino through castle murals, flashing casino and Las Vegas signs, draped columns, game table coverings, cards and dice and glitter and plumed headpieces worn by the women.

Queen Naomi VI, Lady Fran Cracchiola has been a member of the Ladies Auxiliary for seven years and presently holds the office of Vice Grand Lady.

Queen Naomi is originally from Las Vegas and retired from the casino industry. She and her husband, Tony Cracchiola, moved to the Coast 11 years ago.

She is active within the St. Rose de Lima Church Liturgical Dance Ministry, "Handmaiden's Of The Lord."

Page to the queen was Raven Whavers. She is the daughter of Aaron and Tamara Whavers of Pass Christian. Raven is a fifth grader at Bay Catholic Elementary.

King Joseph VI, Fr. A. Francis Theriault, SVD has been a priest for 50 years and just recently retired to a life of ease and bliss to St. Augustine's Seminary.

He is a member of the Knights of Peter Claver for 15 years and holds the distinction of a 4th Degree Knight. He is originally from Boston, Mass. and has been pastor to St. Rose de Lima on a couple of assignments.

He is the proud father of the Black Catholic community of the Bay St. Louis area and several loving ones from New Orleans and beyond. He is best noted for his leadership in the civil rights era, protesting and fighting for equality of the people he loves.

Page to the King was Master Cameron DeJesus. He is a third grader and the son of Petra Obie and grandson of George and Margaret Hicks of Pass Christian.

The Queen wore a brilliant royal blue sequins halter gown, accented with crystal bangles. Her crystal headpiece decorated with gold, royal blue and black ostrich plumes complemented the royal blue velvet collar and 25-foot train.

The beautifully decorated train was decorated with gold sequins, crystal accents, stones and the intricate design of the Ladies Auxiliary of Peter Claver emblem. Royal blue gloves and sequins shoes complemented her ensemble.

King Joseph VI was stunning in black tails. He wore his 4th Degree Banner of Distinction. His collar and train complemented that of the queen with the exception of the 12-foot train bearing the Knights of Peter Claver emblem.

Previous royalty, 2001 Queen Naomi V, Lady Stella Mitchell entered, making her last promenade before relinquishing her throne.

She wore a stunning royal-blue and gold sequins dress and crystal headpiece decorated with gold, royal-blue and black ostrich feathers.

2001 King Joseph V, Brother Russell Fairconnetue, entered the chambers, meeting his queen for their final prom-

nade. He was attired in black tails and king's hat.

He is retired from Dupont/DeLisle and is a member of the St. Rose de Lima Gospel Choir. He is member of the Knights of Peter Claver for eight years. He is married to Lady Golden Fairconnetue.

Page to His Majesty was Master Gregory Harvey. Jr. He is the son of Gregory and Lylie Harvey Sr. of Bay St. Louis and is a fifth grader at North Bay Elementary School.

Duchess Lenora V, Lady Paula Fairconnetue, is employed as Clerk of Council for the City of Bay St. Louis. Lady Paula took on the character of a Las Vegas entertainer, wearing royal-blue and silver sequins gown and fancy plumed headdress with complementary hues. She has been a member of the Ladies Auxiliary for nine years. She is married to Nathaniel Fairconnetue.

Duke Rochon V was Brother Earl Dedeaux. He is employed with Dupont/

DeLisle. He has been a member of the Knights of Peter Claver for eight years. He is married to Gladys Dedeaux.

All Jr. Maids and Jr. Knights represented casino hostesses and dealers. Young ladies were attired in black velvet mini dresses adorned with silver and crystal accents. They completed the outfit with headpieces of silver sequins with black plumes. Young men wore the traditional tuxedo with vest coordinates.

Jr. Maids included Darlene Lee, daughter of Darlene Lee of Bay St. Louis and Allen Fredricks. She is an eighth grader at Bay-Waveland Middle School. She is a Jr. Daughter of Peter Claver.

Courtney Cann, daughter of Harold and Lisa Cann of Bay St. Louis is a 10th grade student at Bay High and a Jr. Daughter of Peter Claver.

Whitley Cann, is the daughter of Harold and Lisa Cann of Bay St. Louis and an eighth grader at Bay-Waveland Middle School. Whitley is a Jr. Daughter of

Peter Claver and was guardian of the queen's crown.

April Belle is the daughter of Paula Belle of Bay St. Louis and the late Melvin Belle. She is an eighth grader and a member of the Jr. Daughters of Peter Claver. April was guardian of the king's crown.

Jr. Knights were Master Robert Labat, son of Thysa Labat of Waveland and Milas Harvey. He is a seventh grade student at Bay-Waveland Middle School; and Master Joseph William Sims, son of Tharthia Young and William Drew Sims of Bay St. Louis. He is a 10th grade student at Bay High School.

Mistress and Master of Ceremony were Miyoka Broussard Montgomery of WLOX-TV 13 and Myron Labat Sr. of St. Stanislaus College. Miyoka was stunning in a slate gray sequins formal with jacket. She wore a silver sequins headdress accented with black, white and gray plumes. Myron wore a traditional tuxedo



Queen Naomi VI, Lady Fran Cracchiola and King Joseph VI, Fr. A. Francis Theriault, SVD

Tickets: Lyn Brown, Melanie Rabateau and Chiquitta Dorsey

Facility/Band and Publicity: Paula Fairconnetue

Decorations: Paula Dedeaux

Design and Printing, Programs/Tickets, Music and Stage Set-up: Alexander Verrett

Chairpersons: Judith Verrett and Chiquitta Dorsey

Proceeds support the annual Knights of Peter Claver #6 Scholarship Fund.

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30 Lost and Found

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Entertainment

Discovery Center named one of top 50 children's museum

Child magazine has announced the results of the nation's first-ever survey to identify the best children's museums. Miriam Arond, Child magazine's editor in chief says, "Unlike adult museums where most of what is taking place is by observation, at children's museums kids are busy interacting and playing while they learn."

"Our survey found amazing examples of fun, hands-on educational experiences. We found museums where kids can work with dinosaurs, host their own television show or even design a roller coaster."

Over 200 members of the

Association of Children's Museums were sent a 44-question survey. Child's exclusive survey set out to identify children's museums that do the best job of mixing play and learning in a colorful, inviting environment.

A panel of advisors developed the survey and evaluated the results to determine the nation's best 50 children's museums. The website, www.child.com, has the listing of the museums selected and more information about the survey.

The Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, Mississippi children's museum, was one of the museums selected.

The Discovery Center opened in May, 1998 and has welcomed more than 250,000 visitors from the entire United States as well as many foreign countries.

"This recognition pays tribute to our South Mississippi community that has injected the talent and

energy into making the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center so successful," says Betsy Grant, director.

During the school year, over 10,000 children enjoy programs that offer an environmental focus that enhances the discovery learning experience.

Weekend programs offer a myriad of interactive performances, demonstrations and workshops. Every Wednesday morning, preschoolers interact at Bear

Cub Club with lots of movement, stories and music.

"Discoveries To Go" are outreach programs available to local schools. WINGS Performing Arts Program offers instruction, programs and productions in music, dance, theatre, voice and chorus.

Family memberships that include free admissions for one year start at \$40. For more information call 228-897-6039, or visit the website www.lmdc.org.

Discovery Center announces February events

In February, the Lynn Meadows Discovery Center in Gulfport celebrates winter fun.

Bring your beads, wear your costume, get your face painted and join a LMDC parade on Saturday, Feb. 9 at 2 p.m.

In the Artist Studio, create a fancy Venetian mask to wear to the next parade, while Sam the Science Man experiments with color in the Science Lab. Ongoing programs.

On Saturday, Feb. 16, important people from America's past come to life for a visit to the LMDC at 2 p.m.

In the Artist Studio, piece together a People

Quilt for world peace in the style of Faith Ringgold. Ongoing Sessions.

Auditions for "The Hobbit" for children 8 and up are scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 17, 2-4 p.m., and Monday, February 18, 5-7 p.m. "The Hobbit," will be performed in the treehouses at the Discovery Center April 23-28.

Celebrate the Year of the Horse at our Chinese New Year Festival on Saturday, Feb. 23, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dragon Parades, Lion Dances, Chopstick Challenge, Chinese Tails, Asian Rockets, Happy Dragon Theatre, ink block printing and Chinese Legend Starlab are a few of

the great activities for families.

Enjoy food from the China Star and King Buffet restaurants. The event fee is \$2.50 with admission or membership.

Join Bear Cub Club every Wednesday at 10 and 11. Children five and under can enjoy stories and music as they develop interactive skills.

These activities are free, unless otherwise noted, with membership or \$6 admission.

The Lynn Meadows Discovery Center was selected one of the USA's top 50 children's museums. For more information call 228-897-6039.

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Stone Countryfest set first weekend of March

The St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Wiggins is inviting Stone County and the surrounding community to enjoy the good aspects of country living - music, fun and food - at the 2nd annual Stone County Countryfest March 1, 2 and 3.

For kids, a carnival midway is provided by Mitchell Brothers Amusements, along with pony rides and other games and activities. Stroll through the festival's Country Market.

Vendors in over 50 booths will display a wide variety of arts, crafts and flea market finds in the covered arena. A "new" addition to the fest is an Antique Show and Sale in the Allen B. Krohn Building on the hilltop of the fairgrounds.

For information concerning booth applications for the Country Market, Antique Show & Sale, Car Show and entertainment, contact General Information Chairman Doris Taylor at 601/928-5417.

Tickets to individual concerts are \$15; students with ID \$10.

There are no reserved seats.

A pre-concert lecture series takes place in Dixon Hall Annex Room 251, 7:40 p.m. preceding each concert. There is no admission charge for any lecture.

Parking is available on Tulane University campus or in the Loyola Parking Garage on Freret Street.

For information, contact New Orleans Friends of Music, 1035 Eleonore Street, New Orleans, LA 70115, phone: (504) 895-0690.

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